Start of National Foundation for Jewish Culture Collection

AR 1444

Sys #: 000194187

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE
Center for Jewish History
15 West 16th Street
New York, NY 10011

Phone: (212) 744-6400
Fax: (212) 988-1305
Email: lbaeck@lbi.cjh.org
URL: http://www.lbi.org

AR 1444 1/1 National Foundation for Jewish Culture Collection, 1960-1969 B28/4

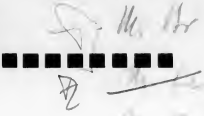
(Loc P 82/7)

Organisationen AR-A,490
National Foundation for Jewish Culture 1444

1. Memorandum New York Jan.5, 1961
   multigraph 3p
2. "Reports on the Jewish Cultural Field" (Preliminary Draft) November 1969 multigraph II and 46p
   bound in blue folder
   p.20-22 Leo Baeck Institute
3. "Supplement to Survey Report National Jewish Cultural Services in America" New York ca.1960 multigr
   97 and 3 loose pages

1.Name 2.Juden USA 3.Leo [redacted] Baeck Institute 4.National Jewish Cultural Services in [redacted]merica

National Foundation for Jewish Culture
729 Seventh Ave. ■ New York 19, New York ■ JUdson 6-7912



MEMORANDUM

TO: Presidents and Executives, Federations and Welfare Funds
Board of Directors, CJFWF
Board of Directors, National Foundation for Jewish Culture
Representatives, Council of Jewish Cultural Agencies

Dr. Nathan Reich Named Chairman of Cultural Council

Dr. Nathan Reich, Professor of Economics at Hunter College in New York City, was elected Chairman of the Council of Jewish Cultural Agencies which serves as an advisory body to the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. Dr. Reich was educated in Europe, Canada and the United States, receiving his doctorate degree from Columbia University. He was a Fellow of the Brookings Institute, an Associate Editor of the Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, and a holder of a Guggenheim Fellowship. Dr. Reich has been closely associated with the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and the Conference on Jewish Social Studies. He is the author of many books and articles and is one of the leading authorities on labor problems.

At its last meeting, the Council of Jewish Cultural Agencies considered many important projects to be carried out to strengthen the collection of historical documents relating to Jewish life in America, publication of historical documents relating to Jewish life in America, publication of scholarly works, and the organization of a broad scholarship program on many levels. The Council includes representatives from eighteen major Jewish cultural agencies in the United States and Canada. Elected to the Board of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture as representatives of the Council were: Harold Lande, Q.C., Montreal, Canada; David Rosenstein, Harry Abramson and Saul Brodsky of New York City; Joseph Goldstein of Rochester, N.Y. and Judge Louis Levinthal of Philadelphia, Pa.

Graduate Fellowships in Modern Hebrew

The National Foundation for Jewish Culture has been asked to bring to public attention the availability of Graduate Fellowships at New York University in the field of Modern Hebrew studies. These Fellowships are made available by the U.S. Office of Education through the Language Development Section of its Division of Higher Education. The Fellowships are intended to enable students to prepare for the doctorate degree in Hebrew or Judeo-Arabic studies. They are renewable for a three-year period and provide stipends of $2,000 for the first year and rising by $200 each successive year. An allowance of $400 per year is made for each dependent. Tuition is offered free to the recipients of these Fellowships by New York University.

Applications should be received no later than January 31st 1961 for consideration for the next academic year, beginning in September 1961. Applications should be submitted to Professor Abraham I. Katsh, Students Building - 46, New York University, Washington Square, New York 3, N.Y.

Applications may also be submitted for a second category of Fellowships which provides assistance to persons interested in pursuing careers as teachers at colleges and universities, or in the Federal service, for which a command of Hebrew is required. These Fellowships, coming under the heading of Title VI, provide an annual stipend of $2,250 and free tuition, with an additional grant of $600 for each dependent. Applications must be similarly addressed to Professor Katsh at New York University.

We urge that this announcement be given the widest publicity and stress the limited time remaining for the submission of applications for the coming year. We regret that this information came to us so late but are hastening to make this information available promptly to Jewish communities so that they may use their own media for publicizing this program within their constituencies.

LaMed Award for Master's Thesis

The first Thesis was received at the Foundation offices for consideration for the LaMed Award. It comes from Miss Sondra Betsch, Instructor of Sociology at the University of Alaska, and has been prepared for the Graduate School of Ohio University. The deadline for receiving materials for consideration during the current year is June 15, 1961. Inquiries indicating a desire to submit theses for LaMed Awards have thus far come from the following universities: Western Reserve University, University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University, McGill University, Yeshiva University, University of Minnesota, University of California, Harvard University, New York University, Wayne State University. In addition there have been many inquiries without university specification and requests for information from many Jewish agencies.

Auren A. Kahn Named Foundation Aide

Mr. Auren A. Kahn has been named Administrative Assistant at the National Foundation for Jewish Culture, it was announced by Mr. Edwin Wolf 2nd, President. Mr. Kahn had served for fourteen years in the program of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Paris as Assistant Director and later as Director. The program for France was the largest program of the Joint in Europe after the War. Since his return to the United States in the Spring of 1959, Mr. Kahn has been serving as Regional Director in the Chicago office of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

Mr. Kahn received his training at the University of California and at the University of Chicago. He was president of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of California as a student, and has spent his entire professional career in the field of Jewish communal service after a period of training in the San Francisco County Office of the State Relief Administration. Mr. Kahn will work with the Secretary of the Foundation, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, in implementing the program approved by the Board of Directors for the coming year.

"The response of Jewish communities, Jewish cultural agencies, and individuals engaged in Jewish cultural enterprise has been beyond all expectations during the first year of existence of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture. The appointment of Mr. Kahn is intended to assure the further growth of the Foundation to deal with the many significant programs which it hopes to undertake," said Mr. Wolf in announcing this appointment. Mr. Kahn assumed his new duties at the beginning of January.

Survey Supplement Available

The mimeographed Supplement to the Survey Report on National Jewish Cultural Services in America, reviewing the programs of 22 Jewish cultural agencies, is available to Federations and Welfare Funds for distribution to committees concerned with this phase of communal support. Requests, specifying the number of copies, should be addressed to the offices of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture, and will be dealt with promptly. It is recommended that Committees on Cultural Allocations have this material in order to acquaint the members with the work of these agencies.

Foundation Board Scheduled to Meet

The Board of Directors of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture is scheduled to meet on Sunday, January 22nd, in New York City. At this meeting a review of the first year's operations will take place and plans for the coming year will be discussed. The Board will receive reports from the Council of Jewish Cultural Agencies which reviewed proposals from individuals as well as agencies for support by the Foundation. The meeting will take place in the building of the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research and will offer the members of the Board an opportunity to become acquainted with the equipment and facilities of this institution. It is intended that other meetings of the Board take place at other cultural agencies so that there may be firsthand contact with the work of the Jewish cultural agencies. A report on the action of the Board at its January 22nd meeting will be available at a later date.

January 5, 1961

November 1969

REPORTS

on the

JEWISH CULTURAL FIELD

(Preliminary Draft)

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE
315 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10010

PREFACE

Jewish culture in America is both elusive of definition and distinctive of substance. It defies structural delineation but is organizationally rampant. Parts of it may be pinpointed and recognized, but it is difficult to grasp in the aggregate. While ignored by many, it is consumed eagerly by others.

Jewish culture is seen, read, and heard through the various media of communication. It is experienced by Jew and non-Jew, socially and intellectually. It influences the language as well as the customs of our society. It exists with body and form, with program and content, with meaning and import.

Over the years a number of organizations have become involved in various aspects of Jewish cultural work and have sought financial support form local Jewish welfare funds. In an attempt to determine the nature and scope of these cultural efforts, the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds in 1958 sponsored a survey of national Jewish cultural services in America. This study focused on four major areas of Jewish culture: Archives, Scholarship, Research, and Publications. Its recommendations led to the creation in 1960 of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture which was called upon to serve as a central focus for the Jewish cultural field. The Foundation was given a broad and comprehensive mandate, including: the enrichment of the programs in the field by strengthening the existing Jewish cultural agencies; providing a better understanding of the field of Jewish culture and its needs; and initiating such new programs as may be required. In its brief existence

the Foundation has provided evidence of the considerable potential which exists for dynamic Jewish cultural growth; and it has revealed that with increased understanding and support there is encouraging prospect for the development of a highly creative Jewish cultural life in America.

In keeping with its mandate to make an assessment of the cultural field and its needs, the Foundation is currently engaged in examining the four major areas under its purview: Archives, Scholarship, Research, and Publications. It will prepare a detailed report on each of these areas, to be followed in the Fall of 1970 by a comprehensive overview of the field as a whole.

The report on each area will present a description of the programs and services extant; the agencies involved; major unmet needs; and recommendations for immediate and long-range priorities. Specific projects and programs will be suggested to advance the work in each area. Each Part of the Report will first appear in preliminary draft form to provide an opportunity for those concerned to offer pertinent data prior to final editing.

This undertaking is being conducted with the cooperation and consultation of the cultural agencies affected as well as with the assistance of recognized authorities not affiliated with the agencies. It is hoped that the presentation of the facts, the delineation of the needs, the analyses and recommendations will be of assistance to Jewish federations and others interested in the cultural field and will lead to additional support of the American Jewish cultural enterprise. It is also hoped that the cultural agencies will benefit from the increased understanding and appreciation of their purposes and programs. The mutual efforts of the organized Jewish community and the cultural organizations will serve to stimulate and encourage a more culturally knowledgeable Jewry. The work of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture is dedicated to this goal.

R E P O R T S

on the

J E W I S H C U L T U R A L F I E L D

P A R T I

A R C H I V E S

(Preliminary Draft)

November, 1969

INTRODUCTION

"These are the names of the
mighty men whom David had:
Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite,
chief of the captains;
the same was Adino the Eznite..."

This portion of a verse from II Samuel 23 may have been copied from a list which was preserved in the royal archives in biblical times. The early records of Israelite history were preserved by oral tradition. With consolidation of the kingdom, however, necessity of having written records became apparent, for from the time of David mention is made of a special royal officer, the recorder (Sofer) whose duty it was to note important events and to preserve them in the royal archives.

Throughout the millenia there is ample evidence of Jewish archival practices. The historian Josephus, writing in the first century, cites documents which indicate the presence of an archive. An inscription from Hierapolis, in Asia Minor, mentions a "keeper of the archives of the Jews." Herod is said to have destroyed all the Temple genealogies in order to conceal the ignominy of his own descent. Jewish academies in Babylonia had archives in which important historical material was preserved. Communities in the diaspora preserved their own records during the Middle Ages.

This practice continued until modern times among the Jewish communities of Europe, but was not maintained when Jewish immigrants settled in America. Preoccupied with the need to adjust to the new environment and to establish needed communal institutions and services, they gave scant heed to such matters as the safekeeping of their records. Moreover, in contrast to the corporate nature of East European Jewish communities which required meticulous record-keeping according to governmental regulations, the voluntary character of American Jewish life provided little incentive for such activity. This indifference and lack of awareness of the importance of preserving records of the Jewish experience resulted in the loss of much valuable archival material. It is only very recently that there has been some growing recognition of the importance of compiling the history of Jewish life in America. And this has helped focus attention on the significance of systematic archival activity.

Archives are organized bodies of records, including papers, books, maps, memorabilia and other documentary materials. The term applies to records of government agencies, institutions, business and commerce as well as to families and private individuals. The essence of the archive is that it is a collection of material which exists only in a single copy and if destroyed may remain forever unknown. Thus one aspect of archival preservation is for its intrinsic value.

However, these materials are also safeguarded because of their indispensibility to the understanding of history. Archives furnish information on the political, economic, social and cultural developments of a society. They are a valued resource in establishing the link with

the past and a source for promoting continuity with the future. No scholar or researcher can adequately understand the meaning of the past unless he has access to the rich store of human experience embodied in archival material.

American Jewry constitutes the largest single Jewish settlement in the world. It represents a vital and intimate part of the continuum of Jewish history. The American Jewish experience is also an important and integral part of general American history. In order to delineate the history of American Jewry, research must be conducted into its life as a community, and as a fellowship of social, cultural and religious groups. Information about Jewish individuals and their contributions to the Jewish group as well as to the larger society should be studied.

This scholarly research is dependent upon archival materials relating to Jewish life in America which are found in manuscripts, genealogies, wills, legal documents, memorabilia, periodical literature, brochures, pamphlets, records and publications of congregations, societies and institutions, and in personal memoirs, letters and files of individuals.

It is essential, therefore, that the organized Jewish community, concerned with its past and mindful of its future, make sure that such material is collected, preserved, and made available for research. Although this responsibility has been accepted by certain segments of the Jewish community, it is important that others assume a greater obligation to assure the safekeeping of archival material.

Organized Jewish archival materials are to be found in many

places. They are in the filing cabinets of federations, synagogues, membership organizations, national and local Jewish agencies and in the homes and offices of individuals. They are also collected in libraries of Jewish educational and religious institutions as well as in secular universities, regional Jewish Historical Societies, local and state Historical Societies, museums and other institutions.

This material is found in varying conditions and circumstances. Almost daily some are being destroyed inadvertently. Some are lying about deteriorating in the attics and basements of homes and institutions. Some are carefully preserved in files and desks but their existence is unknown and they are thus unusable. Some are systematically stored in dust-proof boxes, fire-proof file cabinets, in rooms and buildings which have advanced equipment and safety devices for proper preservation and protection.

The aspect of Jewish archives discussed in this report deals primarily with six national agencies in which a major effort of program is devoted to the collection, preservation and utilization of Jewish archival materials.* In describing the agencies it should be noted that the information will be limited to their archival work only. Other elements of agency activity will be dealt with in subsequent portions of the Report pertaining to those areas of the cultural field in which they may be engaged.

* Data on archival material in libraries under both Jewish and non-Jewish auspices and in Jewish and non-Jewish local, regional and State Historical Societies will be presented in a subsequent Part of the Report.

In presenting this review of the archival work of the agencies, six factors have been selected for detailed examination in order to better set forth the elements involved in assessing the area of archives: 1) the purpose of the agency; 2) its location and physical facilities; 3) the nature of the holdings in its possession; 4) the manner in which it solicits new material; 5) its availability to scholar and community; and 6) personnel performing archival functions. These six factors will also serve as a guide for analyzing the programs and needs as well as in formulating recommendations to meet the needs of this area of the cultural field.

Purpose of the Agency

The holdings of an archival institution are largely a result of the purposes for which the agency was originally organized. Organizations frequently start with specialized interests influenced by such elements as limited resources, the particular interests and competencies of the staff, the contacts of their supporters, the character of the sponsorship, or the geographical location of the organization. Concomitantly, the public image of the institution helps shape its development. It may be significant to examine the ways in which an agency's purposes have changed; whether its purposes duplicate or infringe on those of other agencies; or whether changed conditions require further specialization and modification of purposes.

Location and Physical Facilities

The location of an archival agency may affect its usability by both the academician and the community. Scholars seeking specific

archival material may be able to secure items not physically available to them through the inter-library loan system following correspondence or visiting the particular repository. However, students and other interested in general research may not be able to use the archival resource when it is not physically accessible to them in their community.

Most archival material consists of paper, a highly impermanent substance. Archival agencies must guard against the deterioration and destruction of their collections, taking all possible precautions for preservation. Material needs to be packed properly in dust-proof boxes, clearly labeled and placed on steel shelves. File cabinets, fire-proof storage cabinets, shallow drawer cabinets and other similar equipment should be available for special kinds of material. Provision should be made for fire detection and temperature control. Ample space should be made available for those wishing to consult the archives and suitable arrangements for permitting material to be used by scholars, students and the community.

Nature of Holdings

Archival material is usually maintained and accounted for as collections which are received from individuals and organizations. Material on hand is computed in many ways, i.e., pages or leaves (individual sheets), items or documents (one or more pages), cubic feet, folios or files, notebooks and other similar standards of measurement. Their value for scholarship is determined by the extent of the completeness of particular collections and the different materials possessed in specific subject areas.

Solicitation Policy

Some archival agencies accept whatever material is offered to them regardless of its relevance to their primary interests, others actively solicit only such material as they need. It is essential that agencies continuously seek to collect archival material through organizational contacts, personal solicitation and through various devices to increase awareness of its work and needs.

Availability and Utilization

The ultimate purpose of archives is to make them available for examination and research. But in order that they can be of maximum use, indices, guides and catalogues of what is contained in the archives must be prepared. Scholars and researchers need to have a clear, complete and consistent catalogue to guide them in their work.

It is also important for archival agencies to encourage both mature scholars and talented students to take advantage of their resources. Publication of catalogues and portions of archival collections help to inform the public of the existence and availability of an agency's holdings.

Personnel

The efficacy and ability of the archival agency to fulfill its tasks depends to a great extent on the size and quality of its staff. The archivist in a Jewish archival agency, by nature of the material involved, requires specialized skills such as knowledge of languages, a familiarity with Jewish history and a broad knowledge of Judaica. It is helpful if the archivist has training in library science since

accessioning, cataloguing and other technical functions are part of the operation of the modern archival repository. It is essential that the agencies be enabled to recruit, train and employ competent personnel to perform the specialized tasks involved.

JEWISH ARCHIVAL REPOSITORIES

American Jewish Archives

American Jewish Historical Society

Leo Baeck Institute

The Bund Archives of the Jewish Labor Movement

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

Zionist Archives and Library

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Purpose

The stated purpose is to systematically collect and preserve all aspects of Western Hemisphere Jewish experience. It devotes itself to gathering, preserving, and evaluating the records of the American Jewish community. The total effort of the agency is devoted to the collecting and maintenance of archives for the use of scholars.

Location and Physical Facilities

AJA, founded in 1947, is located on the campus of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati is not a major Jewish population center nor is there a concentration of academic institutions.

Many of the inquiries for material from AJA are received by mail and by telephone. In order to make the material readily available to scholars on both the East and West Coasts, the agency in 1969 was authorized by HUC-JIR to establish archival microfilm centers in the New York and Los Angeles branches of the College. The microfilm collection - about one million pages of material - and the entire card catalogue will be duplicated so that scholars and researchers can ascertain what the Archives can offer them. Material not available on microfilm will be photoduplicated or sent on an inter-library loan basis from the Cincinnati headquarters. It is expected that this expanded program will be effectuated by 1971.

The archives are housed in a building with four levels having stacks and carrels on each level. There are microfilm readers, a rotary microfilm camera and a reader-printer. The lobby has space for an exhibit area and card catalogue. At the present time there is adequate space but, at the current rate of growth it is estimated that within five years all available space will have been exhausted. The building is fire-resistant, temperature-controlled and has a smoke warning system. Material is stored in dustproof boxes on steel shelves, clearly labeled. The lighting is good, and there are adequate aisles for mobility. Shallow drawer file cabinets are available for large documents and posters.

A regularized maintenance program is conducted by periodically checking tapes and microfilms for decomposition and leafing through the file containers.

Nature of Holdings

AJA has approximately four million pages of material of which one million is on microfilm, a large part of the remainder on photostats and Xerox. Most of the material is late 19th and 20th Century Americana.

Holdings are in the following categories:

1. Manuscripts - correspondence and diaries of individuals and institutions.
2. Documentary sources - licenses (peddlers, marriage, etc.) naturalization certificates, passports, wills, deeds.
3. Unpublished histories and biographies of communities and individuals.
4. Minute books of organizations and congregations.
5. Near print - ephemera, articles, clippings, brochures.
6. Pictorial material - maps, pictures, photos.

7. Periodicals - The American Jewish Periodical Center is an adjunct of the American Jewish Archives and Hebrew Union College Library. Every Jewish periodical in the United States beginning with 1823 until 1925 and a selection of periodicals after 1925, is being microfilmed. A catalogue of what has been put on microfilm is published.

Some Important Collections:

Louis Marshall papers - (1900-1929) - over 200,000 pages.

Jacob Schiff papers - (1914-1920) - 2,000 pages.

Felix Warburg - (1910-1937) - 200,000 pages.

Samuel Untermeyer - (1899-1920) - 6,000 pages.

Labor Zionist Archives - (1897-1950) - organized chronologically - 300,000 papers.

Aaron Lopez - (late 18th Century) - microfilm of original papers in archives of the Newport Historical Society plus original and photoduplicate material from other sources - approximately 100,000 pages.

Henry Hurwitz Menorah Journal Archives - (1931-1961) - 50,000 pages.

UAHC and HUC-JIR Archives - (1870 to present) - at least 100,000 pages.

Stephen Wise material on microfilm - (1900-1949) - 25,000 pages.

In addition to the above, the AJA possesses over 1,000 individual small collections; hundreds of tape recordings of events; individual interviews, ordination services, lectures, special programs, etc. These are catalogued.

Solicitation Policy

The AJA solicits material through organizations and personal contact. Newspaper obituary columns are followed and correspondence is initiated with the heirs of prominent persons for preservation and

donation of the materials to the Archives. Living personalities are contacted requesting them to give thought to preservation and disposition of their personal papers. Material is sought from Jewish congregations of all persuasions for their records and memorabilia. AJA is uncritical of what material it should accept, believing that later generations should decide its value. Every national Jewish organization has been requested to send mailings, releases, and other printed material to the Archives. The AJA will send copies of its material to any archival agency in exchange for material which it does not have.

Availability and Utilization

Material is used by established scholars, researchers, candidates for Master's and Ph.D. degrees - rabbis, rabbinical students, college and high school students, lay people. AJA will supply bibliographies, Xerox copies, lists of material to assist the individual. Most inquiries are through the mail; telephone inquiries and personal visits usually follow lengthy correspondence. Inquiries from New York and Los Angeles average about ten each weekly.

Most acquisitions are listed annually in the American Jewish Archives, AJA publication, now in its twentieth year. The AJA card catalogue contains descriptions of collections and material with generous use of cross reference. Indices of Occident (first major American Jewish periodical), Israel's Herald and Einhorn's Sinai are available.

Some documents and pictures in the archival collection are loaned to institutions in the United States and Canada for exhibit purposes. A brochure entitled Loan Exhibits of American Judaica lists 63 items available for loan.

Personnel

The AJA professional staff consists of a Director and an Associate Director, both ordained rabbis with Ph.D.'s who also serve on the HUC-JIR faculty. Additional personnel includes an archivist-cataloguer and an indexer, neither with professional library education.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Purpose

The stated purpose is to preserve, exhibit, publish and popularize material of every kind having reference to the settlement, history and life of Jews on the American continent. It seeks to promote and encourage research in the study of Jewish history in general, and American Jewish history, in particular.

Location and Physical Facilities

The AJHS was founded in 1892 and is located on the campus of Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts. In 1968 it moved into a new building after having been in limited facilities in New York City. Waltham is near the large Jewish population of Metropolitan Boston as well as many academic institutions of higher learning.

The building, composed of three levels, is entirely temperature and humidity controlled with fire and smoke detection system. There is an ample reading reference area and study carrels containing microfilm readers. There are two levels of stacks and a large display area for exhibits. There is adequate space for all materials now on hand and for additional materials in the years immediately ahead. There are ample storage and work areas. The material is stored in dustproof boxes on steel shelves and clearly labeled. There are shallow drawer file cabinets for posters and other large materials.

AJHS is collecting information concerning the American Jewish response to different contemporary Jewish issues and/or issues which affect Jews. Through correspondence and personal contacts with individuals and organizations, the Society has amassed cartons of material on the crisis of the 1967 Six Day War, Vietnam, radical Jewish students, Black-Jewish relations, generation gap and the college campus.

Some Important Collections:

Cyrus Adler - Papers (1887-1934) 6 cartons.

Rebecca Gratz - Papers (1794-1869) 2 cartons (635 items).

Jacques Judah Lyons - Collection (1728-1877) 11 cartons.

Mordecai Sheftall - The Sheftall Papers (1761-1873) 3,175 items.

Board of Delegates of American Israelites - Papers (1859-1880) 4 cartons (1,500 items).

Material collected and retained are those which are regarded as pertinent and having permanent historical value. Not all material offered is accepted, nor will the Society agree to splitting collections among several agencies. Other agencies will be recommended if material does not meet Society's standards.

Solicitation Policy

The Society actively solicits material by searching and contacting various sources. It is done by correspondence, and by personal contacts of its membership and professional staff. The staff contacts national organizations for their material, follows newspaper obituaries and corresponds with the heirs.

Availability and Utilization

Books are catalogued according to a modification of the Library of Congress system. There is an integrated catalogue of books and manuscripts in the subject catalogue.

The Manuscript collection is divided into two categories: Institutional Archives, and Personal Papers. There is some current microfilming but no special program.

AJHS has published Manuscript Collection, 1967, describing 68 collections; and Manuscript Collection, January 1968-June 1969, describing 65 collections. These have been distributed to libraries and other research centers. Another 40 collections are also catalogued, leaving approximately one-third of the collections uncatalogued. These latter, however, are shelved alphabetically.

Materials are used by scholars, academicians and students to write books, articles and theses.

Inquiries are received through letters, telephone calls, and personal visits. Requests come from institutions, synagogues, other libraries and universities.

AJHS reaches out to the universities to acquaint them with the Society's resources for research. Requests have been sent to the American History Departments at universities for the listing of courses being offered. The nature and kinds of materials available at AJHS and a listing of suggested Master's and Doctoral topics based on available material are being sent to the History Departments. Seminars with History Departments are being arranged to implement this program. A concerted attempt is being made to reach faculty and students, particu-

larly in the Greater Boston area. A communication addressed to students was sent to universities for distribution indicating the resources available, facilities for study, readiness to be of assistance and welcoming their participation.

From time to time AJHS arranges traveling exhibits. During the Summer and Fall of 1969 the AJHS is sponsoring jointly with B'nai B'rith an exhibit on "The Jew in American Political Life", on display in Klutznick Exhibit Hall, Washington, D. C.

Personnel

The staff consists of a Director with graduate degree in History; a Librarian-Editor with rabbinical training, Ph.D. and library and archival training; and three library assistants with academic, but no formal library training.

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE

Purpose

The Institute is one of three study centers, the others being in Jerusalem and London. Only the New York Institute has developed a library and archives collection.

The stated purpose is to collect material dealing with Jewish history during the last two hundred years in German-speaking countries of Central Europe for research and study of this period of Jewish history.

Location and Physical Facilities

The Leo Baeck Institute, founded in 1954, is located in New York City. Since 1961 it has occupied a five-store townhouse. The building has a fire detection warning system.

Archival material is stored in fibre expanding evelopes, manila envelopes and notebooks in storage cabinets, file cabinets and safes which are fireproof; on steel shelves, tops of cabinets and other available space. The archival area is confined to three relatively small rooms on the street level with little working space. Persons using the material must go to the second floor library room. There is a microfilm reader and there are plans to acquire a microfilm reader-printer.

Nature of Holdings

The Institute has nearly 100,000 documents and hand-written letters, about 500 manuscript volumes of personal unpublished memoirs,

and community archives of old kehillas, literary estates and business enterprises. In addition, the Institute possesses:

- Pamphlets - over 3,000.
- Periodicals - published from the beginning of the 19th Century to 1930 - 800 titles (several thousand bound volumes).
- Approximately 180 Collections, most of which are of individuals.

Some Important Collections:

Leo Baeck - 300 unpublished letters.

Julius Bab - correspondence with 100 authors - thousands of items.

Richard Beer Hofmann - correspondence and family papers from 1850.

Constantine Brunner - correspondence and manuscripts.

Ismar Elbogen - hundreds of letters.

Ephraim Frisch - 3,000 letters in 28 volumes and his editorial file.

Eric Kahler - manuscripts, letters, family documents.

Prof. Hans Kohn - file cabinet of papers, MANUSCRIPTS, CORRESPONDENCE

Fritz Mauthner - 7,000 letters and other papers.

Edward Strauss - personal correspondence.

Solicitation Policy

Through the cooperation of German Jews and others, both in the United States and abroad, the Institute solicits material and actively seeks to recover and collect pertinent material wherever it may exist. The Institute accepts material that is offered if it is regarded as pertinent.

Availability and Utilization

The Institute's archives may be used by any recognized scholar, and by students with proper referral. The Institute encourages the use of its material by established scholars.

Approximately eighty of the 140 collections have been catalogued with detailed annotations. Now in preparation is a card file containing a general description of each collection.

From time to time the Institute arranges exhibits by utilizing the books, manuscripts, paintings and photographs from its collections. An exhibit on Franz Kafka is being prepared for December, 1969.

Personnel

The Director of the Institute has overall supervision, but the archives are staffed by two archivists, each with a Ph.D. and possessing linguistic skills.

THE BUND ARCHIVES OF THE JEWISH LABOR MOVEMENT

Purpose

The Bund Archives of the Jewish Labor Movement came into being in 1899 in Geneva, Switzerland. After World War I it was transferred to Berlin, moved to Paris in 1933, and following World War II, was brought to America.

The stated purpose of the Bund Archives is to preserve material of the early Jewish labor movement in Russia and Poland (particularly revolutionary periodicals, brochures, pamphlets and proclamations).

Location and Physical Facilities

The Bund Archives since 1952 has been located in the Atran Center for Jewish Culture in New York City.

The archives are housed in three rooms on the top floor of a five-story building and a small room on another floor. They are placed in fibre expanding envelopes, brown wrapping paper, manila folders and large envelopes. They are filed on steel shelves, mostly in double rows, in file and storage cabinets, and in large cartons, all of which are properly identified. There are no facilities for fire prevention or detection, nor any temperature-humidity control. The archives are extremely crowded and space is critical. There is a small work area and little space for users to study the material.

Nature of Holdings

The archives consist of books, reports and documents which had some relation to the revolutionary movement in general and the Jewish revolutionary movement in particular. The books, periodicals, pamphlets, brochures, proclamations, etc., run into the tens of thousands: in Yiddish, Russian, Polish, Gennan, English, French, Spanish, Hebrew, Ukrainian, Lettish and a number of other languages. The great bulk of the material consists of descriptions of the revolutionary, socialist and labor movements, of their history, struggles and problems in Europe and America. There is Holocaust material in the form of letters, lists and other documents from Auschwitz and the Ghettos. Material is from the middle of the 19th Century until the present. It is difficult to estimate the amount of material in the archival collection. The materials are in various forms:

1. Manuscripts - reports of meetings, conference and conventions; the correspondence carried on by leaders and active workers; unpublished literary works.
2. "Illegal" and "legal" proclamations, brochures, periodicals of the labor movement.
3. The daily newspapers of the Bundist movement.
4. Books on social problems, socialist theory, the labor movement, Jewish affairs.
5. A collection of literature and reports on the Jewish Holocaust and Resistance during World War II.
6. Placards and photographs.

During the years the Bund Archives has broadened its scope to include material relating to a number of social movements and political groups - not only about Jews and not only from the Socialist sector, but

also about the Russian Social Democratic Movement, the Populist Movement in Russia, and the Anarchists (particularly Jewish groups). There is also material on the American Labor Movement.

Among its microfilms are some which were obtained from the British Museum in London; and a number containing Bundist leaflets and posters from 1897 to 1920 and the illegal Bundist Press in the Yiddish, Russian and Polish languages from 1896 to 1916.

Solicitation Policy

The Bund Archives solicits material from affiliated members, former Bundists and others. It is seeking material related to the Jewish Labor Movement in Russia and Poland as well as the revolutionary labor movement in general. American labor unions are being contacted for material.

Availability and Utilization

There is a file catalogue which identifies most of the material. About 15% of the holdings are unclassified.

Students and researchers from universities in the United States and overseas utilize the materials. No statistics of use are available. Materials must be used in the building, and no provision is made for inter-library loan, or for furnishing Xerox copies or photostats.

Personnel

The Director's position is vacant. There are two librarian-archivists who are not professionally trained, but with considerable linguistic and library skills.

YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH

Purpose

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research was founded in 1925 in Poland. The American section of YIVO was established in October 1925, and in 1940, following the European catastrophe, the headquarters of YIVO were moved to New York. YIVO's stated purpose is to maintain an archival collection dealing with the life of the Jewish people in the past and the present for the purposes of research and study. The preponderance of the YIVO material is in the areas of Yiddish language and literature, Jews in Eastern and Central Europe, the holocaust, East European immigration to the United States, and American Jewish Institutional life.

Location and Physical Facilities

YIVO has been located in its present quarters in New York City since 1954. The building contains a sub-basement, basement and five floors. The archival material is stored on the basement level where the temperature is fairly stable all year round. Due to a critical shortage of space it has been necessary to utilize rooms and cabinets in the hallways on the fourth and fifth floors. Material is placed in dustproof boxes, expanding envelopes, brown wrapping paper and large envelopes. It is filed on steel shelves, in file and storage cabinets, on top of file cabinets and other available space. A small area is used for both staff work and

research by visitors. There is a microfilm camera and a microfilm reader. An automatic fire-warning system is in operation and a sprinkler system is being installed.

Nature of Holdings

The YIVO holdings consist of approximately two million items contained in three kinds of collections:

1. Private - twenty major (complete collections) and about one hundred small personal collections of individuals of which approximately fifty are catalogued. The rest are filed separately by alphabet on shelves.

2. Organizational - about twenty-five collections of national and international Jewish agencies and institutions.

3. Special -

   a. The Yiddish Theater -

      Perlmutter Collection of two thousand plays of which seventeen hundred are hand-written.

      Maurice Schwarz Collection of twenty to thirty plays and hundreds of reviews.

      Hundreds of photographs of the Yiddish theater productions and play posters.

   b. Photographs of Eastern Europe and America (100,000).

   c. The Vilna Collection (composed of collections pertaining to more than 100 European communities).

   d. Jewish Education Material -
      Yudel Mark Collection (50,000 pages).

   e. Jewish Music Collection -

      A.M. Bernstein - 4,327 items of published scores, articles, manuscripts of liturgical music.

      St. Petersburg "Society for Yiddish Folk Music" (1908-1920), approximately 1,000 items of papers, records and posters of its events.

f. Jewish Labor Movement -

Minutes of Hebrew Federated Jewish Trades (1899-1930).

g. Bibliographical Collection of Yiddish Literature -

150,000 annotated cards.

h. Workmen's Circle -

Central office and branch files, scrap books, records of individuals, etc.

i. Art Reproductions by Jewish Artists -

Material on hundreds of artists.

j. Graphic Art -

From the 16th to the 19th Century - several hundred items, all mounted.

k. Newspaper Clippings -

Hundreds of thousand of newspaper clippings and articles dealing with American Jewish life.

l. Collections on the history of Jewish mass settlement in the United States reach a total of over 10,000 files, containing several hundred thousand units.

Some Important Collections:

The Eisenberg-Borenstein Collection (materials on the early Jewish immigration, beginning in the 1860's) - 5,725 leaves.

Professor Joseph Chamberlain Collection - 3,725 leaves.

HIAS Archive in YIVO (beginning around 1900) - 849 files.

National Coordinating Committee for Aid to Refugees (under the direction of Professior Chamberlain) - 105 files.

National Refugee Service - 1,399 files.

United Service for New Americans - 3,860 files.

German-Jewish Children's Aid - 621 files.

JDC, Transmigration Bureau - 1,899 files.

United HIAS Service (merger of HIAS and USNA, after 1954) - 346 files.

Agro-Joint Collection of Jewish settlement (1920-1936) - 50,000 sheets.

Vilna Ghetto - 3,000 items.

Lodz Ghetto - 6,000 pages, 4,000 photographs.

Nazi Collection - 50,000 original documents (1933-1945) dealing with the German Foreign Office, Goebbels Propaganda Ministry and 1,400 dossier files on Academicians.

Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage - collection of Nazi material with four thousand photographs of rabbis and schools of learning.

YIVO has an oral history program involving individuals in the Jewish labor movement, fraternal and Yiddish speaking organizations. There is a listing of fifty taped interviews. Some residents of old age homes are taping their reminiscences and adjustment to America as part of the study of Jewish immigration.

There is a large collection of microfilm material which is catalogued. At present the Workmen's Circle collection is being microfilmed.

Solicitation Policy

Material is actively solicited through correspondence with scholars and communal leaders. Contacts are made in follow-up of obituary notices and with leaders of organizations. Material usually comes through membership and others aware of the YIVO program.

There is no policy on the kinds of material to be accepted. All that is offered by various sources will be accepted with the understanding that YIVO, at its discretion, may discard some of it. It was indicated that material is rarely discarded.

Availability and Utilization

Archives are used by scholars, academicians and students. About twenty-five percent of the collections is catalogued and covers approximately half of the archival holdings. Cataloguing is by filed cards giving general descriptions and indicating physical location. There are no published catalogues showing the kinds of material in the archives. Work is scheduled to begin on a comprehensive guide to several collections with general description of the contents. These will include the Tcherikower collection of materials pertaining to the Russian Revolution and to the pogroms in the Ukraine in 1919-1920; and the collection of over 100,000 photographs of Jewish life in Eastern Europe, America and other parts of the world. A catalogue of materials dealing with the immigration of Jews to this country and their integration into American life is in the final stages of completion.

No statistics are kept of the use of the archives, but it is estimated that an average of one person a week uses the archives for an extended period of time for research. Inquiries and requests for information are received daily through letters, telephone calls and personal visits. It is estimated that in 1968 18,000 requests were received.

YIVO prepares traveling exhibits based on material from its archival collection. Among the more recent of its exhibits which were shown in many communities was one commemorating the 25th Anniversary Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and one highlighting A Century of East European Jewish Immigration.

Personnel

The archival staff consists of a chief archivist and two part-time assistant archivists. All have academic training in Judaica, linguistic skills and extensive experience.

ZIONIST ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY

Purpose

The Zionist Archives was established in 1939 by the Zionist Organization of America and the Keren Hayesod, and is now part of the Jewish Agency for Israel, American Section. The Library seeks to collect books, publications, pamphlets, photographic and archival material dealing with all phases of Palestine, Middle East and Zionism. It endeavors to be the center in America for information and research on Palestine, Israel and other Middle Eastern States, Zionism, and Jewish life in the Diaspora.

Location and Physical Facilities

The Zionist Archives is located in the Jewish Agency building in New York City. It occupies one floor of a thirteen-story air conditioned, fireproof building and has fire detection equipment. Archival material is stored in dustproof boxes on steel shelves, in file cabinets, closets and other available space which is limited. There is adequate work area and a large reading room for users of the material. There is a microfilm machine and a microfilm reader.

Nature of Holdings

The archives and library are considered as a unit and include the following:

45,000 books, pamphlets, documents, dissertations and ephemera.

4,000 periodicals and newspapers in various languages of which 350 are currently received.

262,000 items on microfilm.

35,000 photographs of life in Palestine and Israel and of Zionist Congresses and Conventions and personalities (all indexed).

700 non-musical and musical recordings, including symphonic scores, folk music and records of speeches.

Some Important Collections:

Material from the files of Louis D. Brandeis, Jacob de Haas, Harry Friedenwald, Benjamin V. Cohen, Richard Gottheil.

Microfilm material dealing with Palestine and Israel in the National Archives in Washington, D. C. and the FDR collection in Hyde Park, N. Y.

Original material from national Jewish and Zionist organizations.

Documents and letters pertaining to American Zionism acquired from Robert Szold including original Brandeis letters.

Correspondence of the American Zionist Council.

Bernard G. Richards collection of correspondence and documents pertaining to early history of American Zionism.

Stephen S. Wise material dealing with Zionism in the 1890's.

Xerox copies of the exchange of letters between Stephen S. Wise and Chaim Weizmann.

Solicitation Policy

The Zionist Archives seeks to collect material through Zionist organizations and other groups, Zionist personalities, the Jewish Agency and the Israel Government. A pamphlet was created for solicitation of Zionist material from local groups.

Availability and Utilization

There are separate card catalogues for the library and the archives which are classified by author, title and subject. There is a

catalogue of photographs and recordings. Archival materials, dissertations and newspapers are microfilmed. There is no printed catalogue of materials. The Archives has a liberal library inter-loan policy.

Inquiries are made through letters, phone calls and visits. Resources are used by Zionist and other organizations, Israel Government agencies, press, scholars, students and researchers.

The Zionist Archives makes available books, manuscripts and photographs on a loan basis to communities wishing to arrange local exhibits.

Personnel

The staff consists of a Director with an M.S. in Library Science, an assistant with courses in Library Science, one full-time and two part-time librarians with academic training and some professional and language skills, Judaica background and training.

FINDINGS

and

RECOMMENDATIONS

FINDINGS

It is clear that much valuable archival material pertaining to Jewish life is being collected, preserved and made available for study by a number of national Jewish cultural agencies giving major attention to this activity. Notwithstanding limiting factors of inadequate space, dearth of trained personnel, lack of equipment to protect against deterioration, and a host of other problems, a mass of priceless treasures is being accumulated, catalogued and made useful. Recognized scholars and researchers, imaginative students and others are increasingly availing themselves of these extensive resources to produce scientific studies, to write authoritative articles and well-documented theses, and to publish informative and learned books on a variety of subjects dealing with the Jewish experience. Attractive exhibits are being arranged to bring the absorbing story of the Jewish past to the public. There appears to be a growing awareness among individuals, some local Jewish communities, as well as Jewish organizations, of the importance of preserving their own records, correspondence and papers. In general, there is a heightened recognition of the intrinsic value, import and historical significance of archival material and their relevance to the cultural life of a people.

However, the potential influence of archival resources on the life style of the American Jew has yet to be recognized and exploited. Young Jewish students are constantly seeking information for work on Jewish themes in connection with high school compositions, undergraduate papers, masters theses and doctoral dissertations. Yet few are aware of, or have access to valuable archival material which could abundantly provide them with the raw materials for extensive research and original study.

Despite the rapid growth of Jewish Studies in American colleges and universities, the important auxiliary tools and aids which archives could be are either unknown or not made available.

At a time when so many Jews are seeking identification with their cultural heritage, the fascinating records, memoirs and other pertinent memorabilia which could impressively illuminate that heritage cannot be seen in many parts of the country where large numbers of Jews reside.

The primary task facing the organized Jewish community with respect to archives is to create the means for assuring their most effective collection, preservation and use. The findings and recommendations that follow are intended to indicate some of the measures required to reach this goal.

Agencies' Purposes

This Report has presented data on six national agencies involved entirely or in significant part in the collection and preservation of archival material. Their stated purposes would indicate that there is some specialization in the kinds of material collected: Leo Baeck

Institute, on Jews in German-speaking countries; The Zionist Archives, dealing with Zionism and the Middle East; YIVO, on Jews in Eastern and Central Europe; Bund Archives, concerning the early Jewish Labor Movement in Russia and Poland; American Jewish Archives, on Jews of the Western Hemisphere; and the American Jewish Historical Society, pertaining to Jews on the American Continent.

In actual practice, however, almost all of the agencies go beyond their stated purposes and collect material on areas in which others are specializing. Yiddish material will be found in AJHS, The Bund Archives and in YIVO; Zionist material in the AJA, Zionist Archives and AJHS; collections on the Jewish Labor Movement in YIVO as well as the Bund Archives.

Almost all of the agencies are actively seeking material dealing with American Jewry. They compete for records and documents pertaining to religious institutions, the American labor movement, current activities of Jews in the United States, and other related subjects.

Archival agencies are concentrated on the East Coast with four located in New York and one in the Boston area. The sixth agency, American Jewish Archives, which is in Cincinnati evidently feels the need to set up facilities both in New York and Los Angeles to make its holdings more available. Yet other centers of Jewish and academic concentration such as Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco and the Southeast have no Jewish archival resources. Even the projected Los Angeles branch of the AJA which will be established in 1971 will have only microfilms of the originals.

Location and Physical Facilities

There is a considerable variation among the six agencies as regards physical facilities and storage equipment. The AJA from its inception, and the AJHS now that it has moved into new and modern quarters, are well equipped in every respect. The Zionist Archives, being part of the Jewish Agency, is well housed although it is somewhat crowded. Leo Baeck Institute is in small quarters but is able to accommodate its holdings satisfactorily for the time being. The Bund Archives are in poor and completely inadequate quarters; crowded, poorly housed and with no protective safeguards. YIVO is handicapped by a serious space shortage, but there are possibilities for better utilization of space within the present structure through installation of appropriate steel shelving in the basement depository. It is estimated that such an arrangement would accommodate three times as much material as is now housed there.

Only three of the agencies possess microfilm cameras and microfilm readers, while only AJA has a microfilm reader-printer. These and other types of copying machines are essential for duplication of material for preservation and for reference use. Use of dustproof boxes and other basic equipment for proper safety and storage of manuscript material is not uniform among the repositories.

Nature of Holdings

Although there is unquestionably a great deal of material possessed by the archival agencies under consideration, the quality as well as amount cannot be properly evaluated since there is no accurate inventory of the various holdings. Similarly, there is insufficient information

regarding the scope of materials available on particular subjects among the agencies. Nor is there any systematic effort to determine what pertinent subjects are not being covered. There are no plans to fill the gaps. The following are cited as examples:

The American Jewish Archives is collecting material on religious institutions, but most of the material pertains to Reform congregations since the agency is an affiliate of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. No comparable effort is being made to collect the records of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reconstructionist congregations, not to speak of the hundreds of unaffiliated synagogues throughout the country.

Records and materials concerning the activities of Jews in American political life in the early years of our nation may be found in some of the archives, but material on political activity of Jews in the Twentieth Century - when this phenomenon is far more prevalent and significant - is not being collected systematically.

Solicitation Policies

All of the agencies appear to solicit material more on the basis of personal contacts than through regularized organizational procedures. Disposition of important collections is frequently determined by the acquaintanceship of the donor with someone associated with a particular agency Board or Staff member rather than because of the relevance of the proffered material to the other holdings of the particular agency or of its ability to provide adequate safeguards for its preservation and use. No clearance procedure exists among the archival agencies about solicitation approaches.

Families are frequently approached by more than one archival agency about donating the papers and records of a recently deceased member. Prominent individuals are being urged by a number of agencies to contribute their personal papers. Many Jewish organizations are uncertain about which archival agency they should select for proper disposition of their materials. It appears that many Jewish individuals are donating their files to general local historical societies either because they are not aware of Jewish archival repositories or they have greater confidence in the local non-Jewish society.

There is no concerted program for stimulating awareness of the importance of archives and of the broad responsibility for maintaining them. No interpretive brochure is provided the Jewish community setting forth guides and suggestions on what material should be saved, how it should be preserved and to whom it can be sent. Little effort has been extended to foster a sense of local communal responsibility for the maintenance of records and documentary material.

Availability and Utilization

All agencies endeavor to make their material accessible for scholarly and general use. However, effective usability depends upon the kinds of catalogues and guides that are prepared indicating the nature of the holdings. The method of cataloguing varies considerably among the agencies - and at times even within the same agency. There are few printed catalogues and most of the agencies have not compiled such catalogues for distribution. Scholars, researchers, students and others must enter into correspondence or spend time at the agencies to

determine whether there is material pertaining to their area of interest. Because the cataloguing does not follow uniform standards, users of the various Jewish archival agencies have difficulty seeking similar material from several sources.

The holdings of the agencies are not being exploited adequately. Only recently the American Jewish Historical Society and YIVO have begun to reach out to the academic community to make known their holdings. But there is no organized program of informing the academic institutions and the general community of the kinds of material available and the possible ways in which they may be used.

The area of Oral History, which is becoming an important part of archival programming, is handled by most of the Jewish archival agencies in a peripheral way. Other national Jewish agencies, however, are announcing extensive programs for conducting Oral History programs. There is little awareness among the various agencies about what each is doing, and there is no coordinated plan for systematically involving key individuals to record their recollections and observations on tape.

Personnel

A critical problem exists with regard to personnel to properly carry out the functions of the archival agencies. Most of these institutions are seriously understaffed, and the trickle of an occasional new professional entrant into the field does not alleviate the critical situation. Some agencies have not added to their archival staff in twenty years although the size of their holdings and the use of them have increased many times. No collective effort has been made by the agencies

to determine the professional and academic needs for proficient archival personnel and to plan for recruitment and training.

The field of archives is growing and will increase more rapidly as more agencies and local communities assume the responsibilities of preserving records and other manuscript material. Adequately trained staff is a primary prerequisite for the proper maintenance of archival materials and must be regarded as a major factor in any future planning for this field.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Although not all of the agencies included in this Report are supported by the organized Jewish community, they have been included because Jewish archival material, by its very nature, should be regarded as belonging to the Jewish people as a whole rather than the sole possession of the particular agency in which it is housed. It therefore becomes the responsibility of the total Jewish community to assure proper care and utilization of this material. Every document and manuscript becomes a precious possession to be cherished and protected.

Perhaps the retarded development of the archival area is due in part to the proprietary attitude of the archival agencies toward the material in their possession. They have not felt it necessary to plan with other archival agencies for the care and use of Jewish archives in general, and contact among the agencies is limited, guarded and not directed to the overall requirements of the field. Of paramount need is the creation of an instrument for consultation, planning and coordination; a body which will serve as a forum for sharing ideas and deliberating on the needs of the total archival area. It is recommended, therefore, that the National Foundation for Jewish Culture establish under its auspices a Jewish Archival Advisory Council. This Council shall consist of representatives of existing archival agencies, of other related

organizations, and of recognized archival experts not directly affiliated with any of the existing Jewish agencies.

It is proposed that the Council submit recommendations to the NFJC which in turn will seek to obtain support from the organized Jewish community for implementation. The Council will address itself to all phases of archive activity and will attempt to establish priorities for implementation of its recommendations. It will also endeavor to determine costs for individual projects and suggest agencies to carry them out. Among the matters which the Council might consider are the following:

1) Collection of Material by the Agencies -- Determine the feasibility of specialized responsibility among the agencies for particular aspects. Methods for avoiding competition in solicitation among the agencies, and for clarifying the situation for prospective donors.

2) Physical and Storage Facilities -- Develop improved methods for providing adequate safeguards for the preservation of archival holdings. Recommendation of appropriate technical equipment required for acceptable standards of operation.

3) Archival Catalogue and Microfilm Centers -- Explore the need for making archival material more readily available in different parts of the country, and recommend appropriate measures.

4) Holdings -- Determine the gaps in existing holdings of the archival agencies, and suggest program to assure the orderly collection of material on all relevant subjects.

5) Solicitation of Material -- Develop plans for an orderly solicitation policy to promote comprehensive collection of material.

6) Duplication of Archival Holdings -- Consider the advisability of duplicating all material now found in archival agencies for additional storage and protection. Recommend appropriate program.

7) Cataloguing -- Formulate a program of cataloguing, including recommendations for uniform practices; publication of catalogues and guides.

8) Tools for Use of Archival Material -- Advise about the tools needed for proper use of archives by scholars. Suggest the creation of needed tools.

9) Utilization of Archival Material -- Suggest methods for acquainting the academic community about the available Jewish archival material. Develop plans for increased program of attractive exhibits for bringing archival treasures to local communities.

10) Local Community Archives -- Develop a demonstration project of a local community archive as a prototype and guide.

11) Archival Personnel -- Thoroughly investigate the specific personnel needs of the archival field as well as the requirements for an adequately trained archivist in Jewish archival agencies. Develop program for recruitment and training of qualified Jewish archival personnel.

12) Oral History -- Formulate policy and plan for an orderly accumulation of reminiscences and other material on tape.

13) Program to Increase Awareness of Archival Role -- Suggest interpretation and publishing program to set forth the aims and responsibilities of individuals, local communities, national agencies and others in advancing the role of archives in the Jewish community.

The Archival Advisory Council will meet regularly under the aegis of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture which will provide the staff services and budgetary funds for its operation. The Council should establish priorities among its program objectives as well as for specific projects recommended to the agencies. It should provide cost estimates for individual projects recommended.

Ca 1960
see p 44

S U P P L E M E N T

to

Survey Report

NATIONAL JEWISH CULTURAL SERVICES IN AMERICA

97 p

National Foundation for Jewish Culture

729 Seventh Ave. ■ *New York 19, New York* ■ *JUdson 6-7912*

OFFICERS

HON. HERBERT H. LEHMAN
Honorary President

EDWIN WOLF II
President

SAMUEL BRONFMAN
JULIAN FREEMAN
JUDGE SIMON SOBELOFF
Vice-Presidents

EDWIN ROSENBERG
Treasurer

WILLIAM LEE FROST
Asst. Treasurer

DR. JUDAH J. SHAPIRO
Secretary

COUNCIL OF JEWISH CULTURAL AGENCIES

American Academy for Jewish Research • American Jewish Congress • American Jewish Historical Society
Canadian Jewish Congress • Conference on Jewish Social Studies • Congress for Jewish Culture
Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds • Dropsie College • Histadruth Ivrith of America
The Jewish Agency for Israel • The Jewish Publication Society of America • Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, Inc.
Leo Baeck Institute • National Jewish Welfare Board • Yeshiva University • YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

COUNCIL OF JEWISH CULTURAL AGENCIES

Representatives

Volunteer	Professional
AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RESEARCH	
Dr. Salo Baron	Dr. Abraham S. Halkin
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE	
Mr. Morris Fine (Observer)	
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS	
Mrs. Thelma Richman	Mr. Isaac Toubin
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY	
Rabbi Bertram W. Korn Dr. Maurice Jacobs (alternate)	Mr. Isaac Seligson Rabbi Isidore S. Meyer (alternate)
CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS	
Mr. Shamai Ogden	Dr. Samuel Levine
CONFERENCE ON JEWISH SOCIAL STUDIES	
Mr. David Rosenstein	Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg
CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE	
Mr. Harry A. Abramson	Mr. Jacob Pat
COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS	
Mr. Julian Freeman	Mr. Maurice Bernstein
DROPSIE COLLEGE	
Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz	Dr. Abraham A. Neumann

Volunteer	Professional
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION	
Dr. Jacob R. Marcus (Observer)	
HISTADRUTH IVRITH OF AMERICA	
Dr. Samuel K. Mirsky	Mr. Yerachmiel Weingarten
THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR ISRAEL	
Judge Louis E. Levinthal Dr. Samuel Blumenfield (alternate)	Dr. Emil Lehman
THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA	
Mr. Edwin Wolf, II	Dr. Solomon Grayzel
JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST FOUNDATION, INC.	
Mr. Leopold J. Sneider	Rabbi Ira Eisenstein
JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA	
NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD	
Mr. Joseph Goldstein	Miss Miriam R. Ephraim
YESHIVA UNIVERSITY	
Mr. Louis Glickman	Dr. Morton I. Teicher
YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH	
Mr. Saul Brodsky	Dr. Nathan Reich

NATIONAL JEWISH CULTURAL SERVICES IN AMERICA

SUPPLEMENT

Table of Contents

I - Description of Agencies	Page
AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RESEARCH	A-1
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES	B-1
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE	C-1
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS	D-1
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY	E-1
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY CENTER	F-1
BITZARON	G-1
THE CONFERENCE ON JEWISH SOCIAL STUDIES	H-1
THE CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE	I-1
COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS	J-1
DROPSIE COLLEGE	K-1
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION	L-1
HISTADRUTH IVRITH OF AMERICA	M-1
JEWISH AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE	N-1
JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA	O-1
JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST FOUNDATION	P-1
JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	Q-1
MENORAH ASSOCIATION	R-1
NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD	S-1
THEODORE HERZL FOUNDATION:	T-1
Theodore Herzl Institute	
Midstream	
Research Department	
YESHIVA UNIVERSITY	U-1
YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH	V-1

II - FISCAL DATA ON THE CULTURAL AGENCIES	W-1

AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RESEARCH

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The American Academy for Jewish Research was founded in 1920 "to foster and promote the cause of Jewish learning and research." The chief means of accomplishing this end was the creation of an organization of Fellows distinguished in the field who would meet periodically for exchange of viewpoints, information and scholarship, with provision for publication of the proceedings. In addition, the support of scholars who could not otherwise devote themselves to the field has always been a major function of the Academy. No shift in the original purpose of the Academy has been made, nor is there presently any plan or desire to expand the work of the agency beyond its historic functions and the services outlined below.

2. SERVICES

Fundamentally, the Academy seeks to discharge four functions, as follows:

a) Grants in Aid

Aid is extended to scholars in two categories: First, an older group who would be without any visible means of support if not for these grants. At the present time two men fall into this category, one receiving a grant of $1,800 a year to work on the legal aspects of Jewish life during the days of the Roman Empire, and a second receiving $600 without any specific assignment. Second, a younger category, made up of students who have either demonstrated competence in the field and need additional help to complete their studies, or else show enough promise to make it worthwhile to encourage their entrance into the field by modest subventions. Typical grants run from $300 a year to a few exceptional cases where as much as $2,000 is advanced. A list of those who have been so aided and their accomplishments is available.

When the question was raised as to the criteria underlying such grants, the answer was that this matter "has not been exactly spelled out." Decision as to who shall receive grants is a function of the Executive Committee, which meets six or seven times a year to plan programs and to determine recipients of the various grants. Need is not "necessarily" a decisive factor, and it would seem that no clear definition of standards for grants has been elaborated.

b) Proceedings and Annual Conference

Once a year the Academy meets for a formal presentation of papers by outstanding scholars. This meeting is the heart of the Academy work and the publication of the subsequent annual Proceedings (26 have appeared to date) represents a major part of the Academy's work.

c) Publications

The Epstein Fund, which provides an annual income of approximately $5,000, makes possible additional publications of the Academy. Because of the personal interests of the founder of the Fund, this money is basically devoted to the publication of classical texts. The Academy, however, claims to be universal in its interests as far as Jewish life is concerned and is not exclusively interested in any one period of Jewish life. As examples of this wide interest, it pointed to its sponsorship or aid for various projects - research in modern Jewish scholarship in Soviet Russia, and a history of the Jewish nation during the time of the Roman Empire.

d) Lectures for Fellows

The Academy has been interested in establishing a forum for lectures where its Fellows can meet more frequently than at the time of the Annual Meetings. However, because of lack of staff time no such meetings were held during the past year and there was no certainty as to when such functions would again be held.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Academy is on invitation from other Fellows and is extended on the basis of merit in scholarly achievement. At present there are 260 members who pay membership dues of $7.00 a year, for which they get the Annual Proceedings of the Academy and a reduced rate on publications.

It has been the historic policy of the Academy that it has no paid employees, except for one clerical person and the occasional use of a bookkeeper. Since the Jewish Theological Seminary makes space available and makes no charge of any kind for maintenance, the total expenses for operating the entire office is less than $2,000 a year, including salaries. Considerable stress was placed on the value of this voluntary setup, but it was acknowledged that the lack of staff had led to severe restrictions in the program. Members of the Academy are extremely busy and it has been difficult to find the time to plan adequately for all the activities of the agency.

4. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The following miscellaneous observations were offered. The Academy wishes to conduct itself with dignity and bring together outstanding scholars in professional association. It has no desire to become a large organization. Nothing in Jewish life is alien to it. Since its concern is with advanced Jewish scholarship, its publications and work can never be aimed at the general public; it publishes works that are not suitable for general publishing houses. Close relationships have been established with the Ministry of Education and Culture in Israel, and since 1953 there has been frequent consultation in regard to various publications and as to recipients of grants in aid. In addition, the Hebrew University also submits recommendations for publications and scholars to be aided.

So far, Welfare Funds throughout the country have not been particularly interested in the work of the Academy and with the exception of Philadelphia and Boston, most of the grants have been of a token variety. The present total subvention of just over $3,000, it is hoped, can be extended to something like $20,000 which would achieve all the objectives of the Academy. The chief source of revenue has been various interested individuals.

The point was added that the first generation of Jewish immigrants was generous in its support of community institutions on the local scene and of specifically religious organizations. However, it had very little understanding of the needs and contributions of pure scholarship. The Jewish community has now reached a point where it must realize that it cannot exist without Jewish scholarship. It must understand that an exact Jewish science will inevitanly lead to important popular and utilitarian outcomes. Now is the time for the American Jewish community to undertake growing responsibility in this area - not only by giving money, but by understanding the needs that such gifts will fill.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

American Jewish Archives was established in 1947 as a result of a conviction that Jewish Americana should be systematically collected and preserved to combat the widespread and heedless destruction of precious and irreplaceable historical records. The prime purpose of the Archives is, of course, to collect materials for the use of historians.

The AJA, as indicated below, does not wait for material to come in, but actively searches out important resources. Systematically the Archives collects all types of materials that will present a rounded-out picture of American Jewish life. Although stress is laid upon manuscripts, more and more attention is now devoted to a category which the Archives designates as "near print." Near print includes clippings, brochures, pamphlets, and mimeographed publications. This category is probably the most important today as a source for the study of American Jewish history. In the thirteen-year period of its existence, close to two million pages of material have been collected. Books are not collected, because the Archives adjoins the Hebrew Union College Library.

The goals of the AJA are to collect materials, to service them in such a way as to make them as available as possible and to establish a "school" of American Jewish historical science. It hopes to create the basic historic tools that will in the future make it possible for historians to work effectively with minimum loss of time.

2. SERVICES

Flowing from the above basic aim are a series of present projects: an American-Jewish genealogy which aims at a full listing of every Jewish family resident in America until the year 1840. Some 30,000 names will be included, the entire project being undertaken at a cost of approximately $50,000.

A full indexing of the first major American Jewish periodical, The Occident, covering the years 1843 to 1868, is now completed. This index contains about 100,000 cards. In addition, an index has already been completed for Israels Herold, and an index to Einhorn's Sinai will be completed within a year. It is the intention of the Archives to make indices of all American Jewish key periodicals printed in English. At the present time, the work is limited primarily to periodicals of the ante-bellum period.

The establishment, in connection with the AJA, of a Legal Records Department for the collection and analysis of wills, deeds, etc., and of the American Jewish Periodical Center for the collection and preservation of American Jewish periodical literature.

The publication of monographs in the field: bibliographies and the like.

All materials are promptly catalogued and made completely available to scholars with the single reservation that no materials reflecting adversely on individuals shall be used during their lifetime.

Considerable stress was placed upon the importance of gathering materials. The obituary column of the New York Times is regularly scanned and letters are constantly sent to survivors of important individuals, inquiring as to memorabilia that may be available. Ninety percent of all materials in the AJA resulted from this type of active solicitation. The estimate is that perhaps five percent of these letters and inquiries produce results and considerable time must be spent on this solicitation. Also crucial is the cooperation of many rabbis throughout the country who have been trained by the director and are alert in their communities to the possiblities of securing materials for the institution in Cincinnati.

An extremely basic aspect of the AJA is its photoduplication department. A considerable area is given over to this work and both the physical equipment and the personnel available to operate it were the most extensive seen during the interviews. The AJA as a result is not particularly interested in securing original documents, since photoduplication provides useful substitutes at far less expense. Progressively more records of all kind are being put on microfilms, which constitutes the answer to the space problem.

Two issues of the publication, American Jewish Archives, appear annually. An important additional function is the arranging of exhibit material on American Jewish history, both for display in Cincinnati and for the use of organizations elsewhere.

3. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

The American Jewish Archives is for all practical purposes an arm of the Hebrew Union College. It has no seperate Board of Trustees and no membership, and in no sense seeks to be a society. It is exclusively an archival institution which has been established and is still supported to approximately 85 percent of its budget by HUC, which now considers it a basic part of its operations.

Although cordial relations exist with the American Jewish Historical Society and Yivo, strong feelings were expressed that there would be no value in trying to divide the field among the agencies now active in archival enterprises. It was pointed out that there are approximately 1,100 historical and archival societies in the United States for 180,000,000 people and there was no virtue in trying to reduce the Jewish number of three to a lesser number or to define the field more closely among them. It was felt that until all the agencies have reached a scientifically comparable level, a situation it was indicated does not now exist, each agency should work out its own destiny and should move forward from whatever strength it can muster. The Jewish archival field is still in the pioneer stage, it was felt, and is not ready yet for assignment of responsibilities.

A crucial problem, however, was felt to be the making of materials universally available. Some Jewish agencies have a policy that makes it difficult to microfilm materials freely or to make them readily available across agency lines. The director expressed willingness to attend a conference among the agencies aimed at discussing this problem of availability and also questions of possible assignment or coordination. When asked where Jewish institutions should send materials, he answered that they should indifferently send them where they pleased. No standards have as yet been worked out by anyone as to what material is acceptable and what is not from the standpoint of the archival institutions. The AJA takes "almost everything" without criteria, as long as it has storage space. Materials found not valuable are then discarded.

4. PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Until recently the AJA shared one wing at the HUC with the museum of that institution. This building is now being remodeled and, when completed, the Archives will occupy the entire building. This will be a fireproof, humidity-proof, temperature-controlled building, and will be the first building specifically remodeled to serve as a national Jewish archives. It should be ready for occupancy no later than November 1, 1960.

5. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The dream is to establish an academic center for scientific research in American Jewish history which, within the next generation, will create the basic tools- indices, biographies, bibliographies, and a dictionary of American Jewish history.

Although the AJA would have a larger clientele, both of laymen and historians in the New York area, it finds it advisable to remain in the Middle West where it can service the Jewish communities between the Alleghenies and the Pacific Coast, for there is no similar institution that serves that end in that area.

A crying need is to encourage local communities and institutions to preserve records and become more interested in the archival field.

Considerable backing was given to the Foundation idea as the best means by which federations could support this field. Although the AJA will continue to rely primarily and overwhelmingly on its own resources, it was thought that this instrument could best provide a means to encourage individual important projects of the AJA as well.

6. STAFF

The staff of the AJA consists of the director, an assistant to the director, an indexer, an archivist, two fellows in historical research, an editorial assistant, several part-time student workers on special projects, plus secretarial and photoduplication personnel.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

The American Jewish Committee has for many years undertaken extensive activities in the fields under present study.

ARCHIVES

In the general field of archives, it should be noted that the AJC, almost uniquely among Jewish agencies, places considerable importance on the preservation of its own archives. Its Librarian-Archivist has responsibility in this area, and the agency's archives include not only its own records but additional material related to its history - e.g., the Louis Marshall papers. The archives may be consulted by qualified scholars, upon written request.

The Library of Jewish Information belongs in this category, except for its research functions, to be described below. Its staff consists of three professional librarians and three library assistants. The collection, undoubtedly the foremost in the continent in intergroup relations and current Jewish affairs, contains over 20,000 catalogued books and pamphlets on contemporary Jewish affairs, civil rights, totalitarianism, etc., and more than 750 current periodicals from all over the world. It answers about 100 outside requests for information and service a month and prepares some 30 special bibliographies a year.

The American Jewish Year Book, whose sixteenth annual volume will soon appear, has been edited by the AJC for 51 years and is so well known as a reference work and a recorder of American and world Jewish affairs as to require no emphasis here. It has a permanent editorial staff of three (two of whom have some other duties), but also draws upon the services of the AJC staff in general. Its articles are contributed by correspondents and scholars both here and abroad.

PUBLICATIONS

The outstanding AJC publication is Commentary, established in 1945 with the following statement of aims which appears in every edition of the monthly:

> "In sponsoring COMMENTARY, the American Jewish Committee aims to meet the need for a journal of significant thought and opinion on Jewish affairs and contemporary issues. Its pages will be hospitable to diverse points of view and belief, and it hopes to encourage original creative endeavor in the various fields of culture. The opinions and views expressed by COMMENTARY's contributors and editors are their own, and do not necessarily express the Committee's viewpoint or position. The sponsorship of COMMENTARY by the Committee is in line with its general program to enlighten and

clarify public opinion on problems of Jewish concern, to fight bigotry and protect human rights, and to promote Jewish cultural interest and creative achievement in America."

Its circulation is about 22,000, and the issues are planned by the editorial staff of four members.

Both Evidences and Comentario, in French and Spanish respectively, are AJC publications that play a similar role in their countries to that of Commentary here.

The AJC also sponsors a number of other regular publications in French, Spanish and Yiddish that are concerned with the cultural area. They are for the most part organs of news and comment, and community affairs publications.

SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH

A selected bibliography of 41 scholarly and cultural works published, sponsored or assisted by the AJC since 1942 was submitted for review. Included in the list were publications that resulted from considerable scholarly research, notably the well known "Studies in Prejudice" (and particularly the volume, The Authoritarian Personality), which has had a significant effect on our understanding of the techniques of prejudice. A number of other volumes similarly are the end result of special research; Louis Marshall: Champion of Liberty and two volumes dealing with the position of Jews in the Soviet Union and in the satellites (The Jews in the Soviet Union and the Jews in the Soviet Satellites) and the book on Nazi extermination policies (Harvest of Hate) can perhaps serve as adequate illustrations.

The Division of Scientific Research engages in applied research for testing and refinement of the AJC's action program, and in basic research into intergroup relations and Jewish attitudes. It has a full time staff of three scholars. It employs statistical clerks, interviewers and other personnel as needed, and at times commissions polling organizations to include questions of interest to the AJC in their polls.

As indicated above, the Library of Jewish Information also undertakes research. It is concerned with such fields as history, international relations and political theory whereas the Division of Scientific Research concentrates on sociology, psychology and public opinion. Methodologically, the Division of Scientific Research emphasizes work in the field while the Library of Jewish Information is concerned primarily with the printed record.

Its research ranges from ad hoc memoranda to full-fledged studies. It also commissions research by outside scholars, e.g., Professor John Higham's "Social Discrimination Against Jews in America, 1830-1930," which later appeared in the Publication of the American Jewish Historical Society for September 1957.

This study is one of a number designed to throw light on the problem of social discrimination. Others, already completed, deal with the Jews of England and with the Irish in the United States. A further study of the Italians will shortly be commissioned and the four studies will probably eventually form the basis for a book on the subject. It was pointed out that this procedure is illustrative of the activity of the Library of Jewish Information.

It periodically issues the following mimeographed publications: (a) Articles of Interest in Current Periodicals, (b) Recent Additions to the Library, (c) Forthcoming Publications, (d) Jews Behind the Iron Curtain, (e) Trends: Reports on Jewish Communal Developments.

Five scholarly conferences have been held by the AJC since 1944, including: a) Conference on Research in the Field of Anti-Semitism; b) Conference in Jewish Demography; c) Conference on Jewish Adjustment in America; d) Conference on Jewish Experience in America; e) Conference on Group Life in America.

In all cases substantial groups of scholars were convened and transcripts of the proceedings and the commissioned papers prepared in advance form permanent records of the conferences.

It should also be noted that members of the staff of the American Jewish Committee have contributed articles and monographs to learned journals of the social sciences, frequently as a result of their agency work.

A number of illustrations were given of further activities that the AJC would like to undertake in the cultural field if additional funds were available. Four examples may serve as typical: 1) Plans were submitted to 10 American scholars in Soviet studies outlining a project for interviewing emigres to obtain basic information about Soviet Jewry. Reaction indicated that the project was needed and could result in an important contribution to our understanding of one aspect of contemporary Jewish life. 2) A great deal of data have been assembled on American public opinion about Jews during the past 20 years. The hope is to analyze this information which it is expected would show trends and yield information of importance. 3) The hope was expressed that in the new Institute of Human Relations, which is being constructed by the American Jewish Committee, the library will retain its outstanding function as an information center and add to its usefulness as a research center. The realization of that hope will require more money for a liberalized acquisition and retention policy, for expanding bibliographical services, and for broader information and reference service. 4) Considerable information is available on anti-Semitism as a more or less international phenomenon, religious discrimination and the new nationalisms, and the ethnic-religious groups in America. Funds are needed to analyze the data and produce studies and books resulting from the data.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

1. ARCHIVES

The archival activity of the Congress is the responsibility of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, which since 1948 has been associated with the World Jewish Congress. Before that time the Institute was a direct operation of the American Jewish Congress, and in view of the fact that the World Jewish Congress is subvented by the American Jewish Congress, is housed in its building, and operates in close cooperation with it, this activity can perhaps properly be considered a project of the American Jewish Congress itself.

The archives consist of clippings from newspapers, magazines, periodicals and some books (from every part of the world and in all languages), all aimed at gathering and classifying data on the history of Jews in all sections of the world since approximately the time of the advent of Hitler to power. A staff of four people is employed in the process of gathering these materials and in classifying them so as to make them available and useful. A statement will subsequently be submitted documenting the extent to which these archives are used, although the general claim was made that it has proved to be an invaluable resource for scholars and the general public by way of furnishing documentary information on all phases of contemporary Jewish life.

The Commission on Law and Social Action, in addition, maintains a library of materials on all aspects of problems in the field of social action - and its clippings, manuals, brochures, law reviews and other comparable data are widely used by law school students, scholars and others interested in problems of social action.

2. PUBLICATIONS

a) Judaism

The quarterly, Judaism, was founded in April of 1952 with the purpose defined as follows:

> "To stimulate an informed awareness of Jewish ideology, encourage Jewish scholarship . . . . and generally foster affirmation of Jewish religious, cultural and historic identity . . . . It is dedicated to the creative discussion and exposition of the moral, religious, philosophic concepts of Judaism and their relevance to the problems of modern society."

It was stressed that Judaism is not a house organ, nor is it specifically designed for Congress membership. Its circulation of somewhat more than 2,000 is addressed to a wide Jewish audience and some non-Jews, and does not constitute a specifically Congress readership.

In line with its aim of limiting itself to interpreting Judaism and Jewish values, current or topical problems or articles of general interest - as opposed to specifically Jewish issues - are excluded. The Board of Editors represents many viewpoints in Jewish life and an attempt is made to present varying interpretations of basic Jewish values. A good deal of material results from manuscripts that are submitted without invitation, but the Board of Editors assigns individual articles, and occasionally entire numbers. A coming issues, for instance, will feature a discussion of the question: "Who is a Jew?" The Tercentenary issue, which has since been put between hard covers, is another example of an issue that was totally planned. The statement was made that a greater number of manuscripts are submitted than can be used, but that there has not been during the past six years of its operation an increase in the quantity of unsolicited manuscripts. As is the case with almost all other publications, it was recognized that in the future it would be useful to be able to plan material to a larger extent.

Judaism pays $5.00 a page for material that is printed. The gross cost of the magazine is approximately $16,000 a year and the net cost to Congress was $4,800 for the last fiscal year. Part of the low cost of the magazine is due to the fact that only clerical help is paid and a great deal of the editorial work is either voluntary or results from making available various members of Congress staff for this work.

b. Congress Weekly (Congress Bi-Weekly)

The Weekly was established in 1940 and has been designed as a magazine of Jewish opinion, information and ideas. It is financed and sponsored completely by the Congress and its total circulation of 31,000 is primarily to Congress members who receive the bi-weekly as a part of their dues. It is also an integral part of local chapter activity since its contents are used extensively in connection with chapter discussion and program building in general.

It is nevertheless felt that the Weekly is more than a house organ and has established itself as a Jewish journal of general interest and importance. It has approximately 2,000 subscribers beyond Congress membership and its contents, although always related to the Jewish scene, do not necessarily represent Congress viewpoint except in the editorial section. Material is printed that is submitted without solicitation and in addition, articles and occasionally whole issues are planned and commissioned. A good deal of evidence was presented to document the claim that its various sections, including material on book reviews, special issues and features, editorial opinion and general contents are an accepted and significant part of the Jewish informational and cultural field.

c. "Viewpoints"

This is a relatively new pamphlet series on topical issues. The brief pocket sized pamphlets attempt to present authoritative information and viewpoints on subjects of community relations interest.

d. "Folk un Veldt"

This is a mimeographed series under the sponsorship of the World Jewish Congress which appears monthly and is distributed to newspapers nationally and internationally, as well as to affiliates of Congress. It analyzes major trends on the cultural, social and political scene. Its language is Yiddish.

e. "Jewish Cultural Affairs"

This is a series of 24 pamphlets on issues of basic Jewish interest. They still serve as a basis for much program activity within the Congress itself and have proved a useful instrument for general programming activities, although the series is no longer being produced.

f. World Jewish Congress Book Publication

In cooperation with the Torah Cultural Department of the Jewish Agency, two volumes have been prepared by the World Jewish Congress - one on Maimonides and the other on Rashi.

3. COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY INTERRELATIONS

The Congress for a number of years maintained a full department, the Commission on Community Interrelations, created to "apply social science knowledge and research techniques to fight prejudice and discrimination, and to develop new and better methods of intergroup relations."

For a period of some years, when fully staffed, it developed the Community Self-Survey technique, the Incident Control Project, (both concerned with aspects of intergroup relations), Techniques for Evaluating Intercultural Education, and conducted considerable research in the field of Jewish identification and Jewish belongingness. In 1949, the Commission won the award of the American Psychological Association for outstanding work in the field of intergroup relations.

For the past year, this department has become basically a holding operation since there has been no full time director in that period of time. It is however hopwed to re-establish this part of Congress operation and the coming year's budget provides for the engagement of a director and re-establishment of this department.

4. GREAT JEWISH BOOKS

In cooperation with various publishers, the Congress has produced a number of volumes - an autobiography of Dr. Wise, a collection of his letters, a collection of essays in connection with the Tercentenary Celebration, and a volume of great Jewish books. It is hoped in connection with this latter publication to deepen and broaden an activity that has already been undertaken - the establishment of a Jewish Great Books program somewhat comparable to that existing in the general field.

5. ART EXHIBITS

From time to time the Congress undertakes at its Congress House exhibits of significant Jewish artists, together with the usual activities associated with this type of exhibit.

6. FUTURE PLANS OR "DREAMS"

The American Jewish Congress believes that the American Jewish community, despite its vast philanthropic and intricate communal organization, lacks a competent and authoritative central institution for the gathering, study and publication of information concerning the character, content and needs of Jewish life on the domestic and international scene. Such analyses and reports are essential, it feels, for the wise and efficient planning of Jewish communal affairs and for the education and training of leaders of the Jewish community.

The American Jewish Congress in its own capacity and as an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress therefore hopes if funds are available to establish an Institute of Jewish Affairs to meet these needs. This Institute would embrace the ongoing research activities presently being conducted by the Institute of Jewish Affairs of the World Jewish Congress on the international scene and the functions of the Commission on Jewish Communal Affairs and the Commission on Community Interrelations of the American Jewish Congress on the domestic scene.

The activities planned for the Institute, if it is to be established on the contemplated basis, include:

a) To establish a net of correspondents the world over who would report regularly and whenever required to the Institute on trends and events in their country and conduct primary research in their respective community on economic and demographic position; migration; cultural, religious and organizational activities; attitudes of the majority toward the Jews and Jewish problems, etc.

b) To engage, on a worldwide basis, in a number of studies concerning the basic problems of the Jewish people, such as cultural and religious trends and survival, organizational trends and facilities, Jewish and Gentile co-existence, demographic trends, censuses, etc.

c) To establish, within the existing facilities, special collections of material not otherwise available, such as complete collections of anti-Semitic and racist periodical and non-periodical literature, collections of publications on contemporary Jewry in all languages, and so on.

d) To provide for a periodic non-Journalistic publication to enlighten the Jewish and non-Jewish public about questions and events of importance to the Jews the world over.

e) To organize seminars and lectures on topical events in Jewish life which would contribute to the knowledge of the manifold Jewish problems.

f) To transform the library into a study and research place for all persons interested in Jewish affairs.

The responsibilities of the Commission on Jewish Communal Affairs would be on an expanded basis to devote itself to a study and analysis of the demography, social structure, educational and religious structure, communal machinery, development of Jewish identity, character of Jewish affiliation which shape or reveal the nature of Jewish life in America.

The Institute would also house that part of the work of the Commission on Community Interrelations which concerns itself with psychological research on Jewish loyalties, the integration of the Jew in American life and the impact of democratic processes on Jewish identification.

The expansion of the work of these three departments in research and publication, it is claimed, would be valuable to institutions of learning throughout the world; to statesmen and leaders of public opinion; to local, national and international Jewish organizations, to professional directors and lay leaders in Jewish communal affairs.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The American Jewish Historical Society was organized in 1892 with the following object:

> "To collect and publish material bearing upon the history of America, and to promote the study of Jewish history in general, preferably so far as the same is related to American Jewish history or connected with the causes of emigration from various parts of the world to this continent. It is known that Jews in Spain and Portugal lent no inconsiderable aid to the voyages that led to the discovery of America, that a few accompanied the earliest discoveries and that Jews were among the first settlers on this continent, and in its adjacent islands. Considerable numbers saw service in the Colonial and Revolutionary wars, some of them with great distinction. Others contributed liberally to the Continental treasury, at critical periods, to aid in the establishment of Independence. Since the foundation of our government, Jews have played an active part in the political affairs of the country, and have been called upon to hold important public positions. The records of the achievements of these men will, when gathered together, prove of value and interest to the historian and perchance cast light upon obscure parts of the history of our country."

The AJHS is presently in the process of reviewing its future plans and its fundamental objectives and purposes. The reformulation of the objectives and aims of the Society will probably alter its future procedures considerably. Its study process is based on a review of the activities and purposes of leading national and regional societies, with the aim of formulating standards for the mid-twentieth century.

2. SERVICES

(a) Library and Archives: It is estimated that the Society possesses 50,000 books, documents, manuscripts and other materials which represent basic resources for the study of American Jewish history. In its archives are the collections of Dr. A.S.W. Rosenbach, Max J. Kohler, Dr. George Alexander Kohut, Samuel Oppenheim, the Reverend Jacques Judah Lyons, Philip Cowen, and more recently the collections of Capt. N. Taylor Phillips and Leon Huhner. The Society is also the repository of the Henry S. Hendricks family papers. These treasures provide the greatest collection of original source materials on American Jewish history.

(b) The quarterly Publication of the American Jewish Historical Society: The quarterly now in its 49th volume has achieved a high place among the scholarly productions both in its special field as well as in the field

of general historical studies. Material for the quarterly has been submitted voluntarily. However, consideration is now also being given to the solicitation of contributions on an honorarium basis.

(c) Publications: Among its important projects is its "Studies in American Jewish History" series, for which three volumes have been prepared. Another series is "American Jewish Communal Histories," consisting of the histories of the Jewish communities of Rochester, N.Y. (The Jewish Community in Rochester: 1343-1925, by Stuart E. Rosenberg -New York, 1954-) and Utica, N.Y. (The Jewish Community of Utica, New York: 1847-1948, by S. Joshua Kohn -New York, 1959-) also (The Jews in Minnesota: The First Seventy-Five Years, by W. Gunther Plaut -New York, 1959-) and another volume called Records of the Earliest Jewish Community in the New World (Recife, Brazil), by Arnold Wiznitzer -New York, 1954-.

(d) Information: The Society considers itself as the principal resource for non-Jewish institutions seeking material on American Jewish history. American historical projects initiated by the Library of Congress or universities -- for example, gathering the papers of Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, usually result in invitations to AJHS to provide pertinent Jewish material. The AJHS is a member of the American Association for State and Local History and the National Historic Trust.

(e) Art Objects: In the Society's collections are paintings of such famed artists as Charles Wilson Peale, John Wollaston and miniatures by Henry Inman, James Herring, as well as Colonial portraits of Jews of the Colonial period. Only recently, the Society took public notice of the fact that five paintings by Pieter Vanderlyn which it owns were not available for study because the Society presently lacks space to display such paintings.

3. GOVERNING BODY AND MEMBERSHIP

There are approximately 1,850 members of the Society. Membership requirements are interest in the Society and dues payment start at $10 a year; Life Membership $250. The Executive Council consists of thirty members selected for three overlapping terms, plus ten officers. The Executive Council meets approximately four times a year and the membership meets annually, usually in February. The membership elects the Executive Council on the basis of recommendations by a Nominating Committee. The annual membership meeting is also the time for a conference on various historical subjects and for the presentation of scholarly papers.

4. STAFF

The staff until recently consisted of a full time librarian-editor and a secretary. Recently an Executive Director and an additional secretary have also been engaged.

5. PHYSICAL FACILITIES

The problem of physical facilities has been a crucial one throughout the history of the Society. For almost one-half century the Society occupied rent-free quarters provided by the Jewish Theological Seminary which were totally inadequate. The valuable reservoir of the Society's scholarly resources were inaccesible because of the lack of space and were packed away in a warehouse. The recent receipt of a legacy of $325,000 from a former President of the Society, earmarked for capital purposes and special publication projects makes it possible for the Society to obtain new quarters where library space of more adequate proportions may be utilized. It is the Society's purpose to proceed slowly in meeting its housing requirements.

As a first step the Society has rented space at a reasonable rental for a three-year period. This move will enable the Society to bring out of storage its basic resource material and to make it available to students and scholars. The legacy will also enable the Society to meet its new commitment for rentals, including the capital costs for a library and other capital expenditures. It is recognized that to meet its space requirements the Society will find it necessary to buy or erect a building where all of its materials and art objects can be displayed. A special Building Committee has been appointed to study the feasibility of the second and final phase of the Society's housing requirements.

6. FUTURE PLANS

It is planned to provide for an adequate staff which will serve researchers, librarians and historians; and to begin to publish a number of basic research tools, long regarded as absolutely essential -- beginning with an index to its Publications and a catalogue of its manuscripts and documents.

7. FINANCES

The minimum operating requirements of the Society resulted in annual operating deficits which were met by borrowing from earmarked funds. As a result of the recent legacy, it is planned to restore these earmarked funds and to apply the interest from the legacy to meet the budgetary requirements of the Society. It is estimated, however, that the Society's plans for increased program activities will result in an operating deficit of approximately $35 to $40,000; therefore, the need for expanded support from Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, as well as increased memberships is essential if the Society is to remain solvent.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY CENTER

The American Jewish History Center of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America was established in 1953 in the belief that "the history of American civilization can be understood best in terms of the spiritual and cultural development of the ethnic, religious, regional and national sub-cultures of which it is composed." In keeping with this philosophy, the Center is devoted to the preparation of histories of American Jewish communities which tell the dual story of the effect of America upon Jewish life, and the growth of the Jewish community in the atmosphere of freedom which America provides. The interrelationship between Jewish history and the main stream of American history has been central to the thinking of the American Jewish History Center, and it is the hope that other ethnic and religious groups following this example would similarly write their histories as projected against a background of the broader community of which they form a part.

Because of these objectives, the American Jewish History Center has emphasized close cooperation with general historians. The Director of the Center is a distinguished non-Jewish historian, and the Co-Director is a member of the Seminary faculty. A number of regional conferences have been held in which problems related to the writing of the history of sub-cultural groups have been explored in depth with outstanding historians.

It was emphasized that the creating of a reservoir of trained personnel who have considerable Jewish background, as well as thorough training as historians, is vital to the success of the project. In addition, two other categories of personnel are utilized: territorial researchers, familiar with local cultural patterns and local families, and a corps of amateur historians - individuals who have been sensitized to the importance of certain kinds of documents and records - and who thus assist the professional historian in locating and verifying his source materials.

As a result of these activities the Center has begun the creation of archives in which selected materials from general and Jewish sources are preserved, catalogued and kept available to researchers in American and Jewish history. This research has included not only a review of various Jewish media but the gathering of significant documents in the general contemporary press. Newspapers, magazines and other contemporary documents have been examined in the preparation of resource material in reference to the various communities, and a system of photo-duplication has been devised that preserves on microfilms all significant records. The Center has now prepared more than 50,000 cards bearing reproductions of contemporary documents and references.

Specifically, this activity has up to this point been directed on an experimental basis to the writing of histories of the following communities: Cleveland, Milwaukee, Vineland, New Jersey; sourthern Florida; southern California, and Montreal. The first volume, on Cleveland, is scheduled for publication within the year and work is in various stages on the other histories. In each case the technique of local researchers and "amateur historians", as well as a trained historian to do the writing has been employed. It is hoped that the list of communities will be expanded with the ultimate objective of providing a regional history of every local Jewish community, a library of community histories, and finally, a comprehensive history of the total American Jewish community.

Deferred temporarily - because of the need to give priority to the writing of the community histories described above, is the establishment of an oral history department aimed at collecting biographies of representative men and institutions. (But the staff for this department is now being organized.) It was stressed that only taped interviews will preserve the "flavor" of the significant leaders of our generation as diaries and essays preserve the flavor of an earlier generation of leaders.

It was also noted that the American Jewish History Center organized its program of research, archive, and writing in full awareness of the contributions being made to the field of American Jewish history by such related institutions as the American Jewish Archives, the American Jewish Historical Society, Yivo, etc. It is felt that the distinctive program of the Center in no way conflicts with the activities of the other agencies, but provides a unique contribution to a total program of American Jewish studies.

Although it is an integral part of the Jewish Theological Seminary, the work of the American Jewish History Center is totally financed, except for the services of its Director and Co-Director, by contributions from private funds and in some cases, from the communities whose history is being written.

BITZARON

Bitzaron was founded in 1939 "to create a platform for Hebrew writers and scholars here and abroad, an opportunity for creative research; and a source for financial assistance to scholars in the field of Hebrew". The material contained in this monthly Hebrew periodical includes articles on Jewish history, law, philosophy, literary criticism, belles-lettres, as well as consideration of problems on the contemporary scene.

It considers itself to be an interpreter of Jewish life in America to Israel and has included translations into Hebrew of such authors as Vachel Lindsay, Karl Shapiro, William Auden and Walt Whitman. It also aims to be an outlet for creative Hebrew expression in America, and attempts to discover young talent in this country and provide a vehicle for their Hebrew expression. The magazine claims to be non-partisan and free of any kind of political orientation.

A good deal of the material that is printed is unsolicited, it was estimated that two-thirds of the material is secured in this manner. However, it was conceded that it would be preferable to commission more articles and if funds were available a far larger share of the articles would be secured in this manner. Payment for material that is accepted is at the rate of $5 to $10 a page. Occasionally whole issues are devoted to a single writer as has been the case recently with Joseph Klausner, and previously with Theodor Herzl, Rashi, Smolenskin and Ahad Ha'Am.

Sources of support are the membership of Bitzaron (dues are $10 a year), subscribers to the magazine, interested individuals, a modest subvention from the Jewish Agency and advertising. The magazine is for all practical purposes produced by one man (the editor), although an editorial committee is also helpful.

No thorough examination has been made of the magazine's readership, but in addition to the subscribers the publication is circulated to libraries and students, and about 300 are sent to Israel, presumably to literary figures there.

Because of the difficult financial situation of Bitzaron, very little activity has been undertaken in recent years in the other fields of its stated interest. A total of 17 books have appeared during its history as part of Bitzaron publications, the last being a book published in 1956. Bitzaron would also like to make awards for work in progress in order to encourage the writing of Hebrew in America. It is hoped that during 1959 a sum of $500 will be available for this purpose from various individuals, but any on-going program in this direction depends on the availability of additional funds. Comparable programs of lectures, forums and exhibits of creative Hebrew letters also cannot be undertaken because of the financial situation.

The editor of Bitzaron feels that its work is distinguished from that of any other agency or publication in America because it is felt that the monthly provides the only opportunity for creative literary activity in Hebrew on the American scene.

At the present time 28 welfare funds in the country contribute to the work of Bitzaron.

THE CONFERENCE ON JEWISH SOCIAL STUDIES

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Conference was established by a group of scholars in 1933 "to promote, by means of scientific research, a better understanding of the position of Jews in the modern world." It has during its history engaged the interest of outstanding scientists, including Einstein, and aims at objective study rather than promoting doctrine.

In its earlier years, it conducted population studies and has on various occasions participated in or sponsored conferences on Jewish demography and sociology. In addition to the publications and activities described below, it has published a Bibliography of Jewish Social Studies and a number of other studies and monographs.

It would appear that the original purpose of the Conference remains valid with the chief task being to assemble the funds and the talent required to fulfill its early promise rather than significantly shifting its functions.

2. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The present president of the Conference was elected in Spring and stated that because of his brief tenure he would like to limit himself in the interview to broad purposes and problems of the agency, particularly since the secretary is responsible for the administrative and detailed operation. He did however stress his belief that the CJFWF budget digest of his agency might inadvertently convey a distorted impression, since 1957, for a variety of reasons, was an unusually poor one. He expressed confidence that 1958 would witness a recovery to about the level of 1956.

The chief source of funds historically has been the contributions of individuals and two difficulties have resulted. First, there is a tendency for long-term supporters of the agency to continue contributions of a set amount despite the fact that costs for all phases of the work have risen significantly. Second, for a period of about a year, the leadership of the Conference was unable to address itself efficiently to solicitation. His administration has begun work on correcting both of these difficulties.

As a symbol of what he felt to be an improved situation, he pointed out that the Quarterly has appeared on time this year in contrast to the record in 1957, when only two numbers appeared. The fourth and final number for 1958 is, in contrast, already in print.

The process of selecting manuscripts for publication is the responsibility of the Publication Committee with the occasional help of specialists. In practice a committee of three does most of the work.

A token payment of four dollars a page is made for all material that is accepted, and although this represents merely a gesture, it does on the whole suffice to pay for typing of the manuscript and occasional travel

in connection with the articles. It does not, however, represent a return to the author at all commensurate with what magazines sponsored by a number of Jewish agencies can afford to pay.

One of the great difficulties facing the Conference has been its inability to solicit fresh material. Because of the lack of funds it has had to content itself with selection of manuscripts offered to it rather than being able to commission necessary work. In the early days of the Conference, a good deal of material was solicited and there has been a great loss as a result of the inability of the Conference to direct social research to the fields where it is most needed. From time to time it has been possible to encourage scholars who have given popular lectures to develop their material further in a scientific manner for inclusion in the Quarterly. In general, however, it remains true that the Conference is unable to undertake much initiative in scholarly projects. The contribution made some years back in the area of studies of population movements and of anti-Semitism is no longer possible.

A good deal of prestige is however claimed for the Quarterly and its standards remain quite high, it was alleged. A total of 222 articles appeared in its first 15 years of publication, on a wide range of subjects and with an impressive list of authors.

However, because of the weakness described above, the Conference must depend on the interests of individual scholars and as a result manuscripts submitted to it tend overwhelmingly to be in the field of history as contrasted with the other social sciences. The latter field involves so much research and greatly increased expenses that individual scholars who are not subvented usually prefer work in libraries on questions of historical interest, rather than the far more taxing requirements of social problems.

The Conference would wish, if funds were available, to encourage research into such basic topics as the nature of Jewish allegiance to Israel, the dynamics of population movements, the determinants of Jewish political behavior. All three questions, although crucial to an understanding of the contemporary Jewish scene, have gone unexplored by anyone because of the need for financial support.

In a somewhat different direction, the Conference feels an urgent need to initiate measures looking toward the recovery of Jewish cultural treasures from behind the Iron Curtain. Soviet archives, as well as those of the satellite countries, are full of rich Jewish records which must be salvaged as soon as possible, since there is a constant danger of their being destroyed. The Conference after the close of the war took the leadership in organizing the European Reconstruction Committee which was responsible for the monumental task of recovering Jewish cultural records in countries dominated by the Nazis. The time has arrived where a comparable effort must be made in reference to the Soviet countries. No other organization and no other individual, it is felt, can provide the leadership for this vital task.

Other projects that the Conference would like to undertake include awards of fellowships and prizes and studies in anti-Semitism, population, bibliography, economic adjustment, and experiences in the concentration camps analyzed from a socio-policitcal viewpoint.

It was claimed that the Quarterly is unique in that it is the only organ of the Jewish community totally devoted to the application of social science to Jewish questions. It has no axe to grind and possesses no ideology. Its single standard of acceptance is the scholarly quality of the work.

In conclusion it was stated that a questionnaire has been sent by the President to members of the Board of Directors raising questions about the objectives and work of the Conference and its relation to other Jewish agencies. The Board does not meet regularly, but it is hoped that the next meeting will be called in the near future and the results of this type of informal self-study will be available.

The president expressed himself as being, in general, opposed to mergers but in favor of federalization of agencies. A prolonged negotiation with YIVO convinced him that despite superficial similarities, much would be lost and very little gained by a merger of these two agencies. Nevertheless, if a Council of Learned Societies could be established, embracing almost all of the present agencies, it would provide a fine means for exchange of knowledge, avoidence of duplication, encouraging foundation support and providing a central place for coordination of all Jewish cultural activities. If such a society had been in existence a few years ago, it might have made the Tercentenary Celebration far more effective and there is no reason to doubt that it could comparably vitalize the entire field in future years.

THE CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Congress for Jewish Culture was organized in 1948 at a conference of representatives of the Yiddish Pen Club, the Farband, Yiddish Writers Union, the Jewish Labor Committee, the Workmen's Circle, and the cultural departments of the Poale Zion, the Achduth Avodah, and the Bund, together with individual writers, journalists and educators.

The main purposes of the Congress as then stated were:

"1. To take steps to preserve the continuity of Jewish cultural creativity and to mobilize various elements in Jewry for this purpose.

2. To publish the works of martyred Jewish writers, artists and scholars.

3. To leave a legacy for future generations of the martyrdom displayed by Jews during the era of the Nazi war against the Jewish people by searching out, gathering together and publishing the documents of those days.

4. To reprint works of Yiddish literature destroyed by the Nazis.

5. To assist in the publication of works of Jewish writers and scholars in Yiddish.

6. To help build and strengthen Jewish education in Yiddish and Yiddish-Hebrew schools, and to issue Jewish educational literature; to promote interest in Jewish music and art.

7. To protect the cultural freedom of Jews in countries where the right of Jews to maintain and develop their own culture is threatened."

2. STRUCTURE OF THE CONGRESS

The governing bodies of the Congress are an Administrative Committee, consisting of 30 persons, and a World Council, consisting of 300 persons. It is basically a Federation of the organizations represented at the convening conference with certain additional functions described below. The Congress has also undertaken a drive for individual membership and contributions in various cities throughout the United States. Two branch offices have been established, in Chicago and Boston.

3. PUBLICATIONS

Publications of the Congress include:

a. The monthly literary magazine, "Zukunft", founded 65 years ago, and taken over by the Congress. The journal has its own editorial and administrative boards, but reflects the aims and aspirations of the Congress.

b. "CYCO" (Central Yiddish Cultural Organization), a publishing house that is also a separate administrative unit with special funds, serving primarily as a distributing agency for Yiddish books. Subscribers pay $7.00 annually and receive four volumes.

c. Published works include:

1. "World History of the Jewish People", by S. Dubnov, 10 volumes (in Yiddish) published during the years 1948-1956, was financed by a subscription plan. Five thousand sets were printed, of which 1,000 sets have been sold in the United States.

2. Eleven volumes of selected works by Yiddish novelists and poets

The recent catastrophe destroyed the publishing houses and libraries of Polish Jewry and the works of many important Yiddish writers, including some American ones. To prevent the total loss of these works, one volume editions of selected works of eleven authors have been published, containing their most important literary creations. Whatever funds were received from the sale were reinvested in further volumes.

This project, made possible largely through funds from the late L. M. Stein, includes selected writings of Abraham Reisen, Isaiah Spiegel, Moshe Kulbak, Baal-Machshovos, Abraham Liesin, A. M. Weisenberg, Isaac Myer Dick, Jonas Rosenfeld, Dr. Chaim Zhitlowsky, Moshe Altman, Israel Stern. The Reisen edition was the largest - 2300 copies - and is sold out. The first eight volumes sold on a subscription basis of about 1000 copies.

4. PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN WITH THE AID OF THE CONFERENCE ON MATERIAL CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY

The Claims Conference allocated $293,690 to the Congress for the the five year period 1954-1958 inclusive, for the following projects:

a. Lexicon of the Yiddish Literature and Press, to be published in six volumes.

The project employs between 8 and 12 research personnel, most of them refugee writers and scholars. The Lexicon will include writers, novelists, poets, essayists, publicists, historians and linguists of the past 150 years. The first volume containing 923 biographies, appeared in 1956, the second in 1958 and work is now proceeding on the third volume. One phase of this project involves compilation of

a bibliography of the most important literary essays, books, memoirs, biographical data and reviews which appeared in magazines and newspapers, as well as in Yizkor books of the past 150 years and includes the work of many writers who died under the Nazi and Soviet regimes.

The Congress has also compiled a card-index containing a bibliography of various book collections and libraries in the United States (Library of Congress, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York Public Library, Yivo Library, etc.) of interest to its field. Its 80,000 cards contain information about 8,000 writer rabbis, publicists and journalists. The Lexicon is expected to be of value to researchers in the field of Jewish literary or general history. In addition to biographical information, there are literary appraisals of the more important writers.

b. The Encyclopedia of Jewish Education ("Dertsieungs Entziklopedie")
This work is an encyclopedia of Jewish education and of general education written in Yiddish. Its stated aim is to report and evaluate the experience and pedagogical accomplishments in Jewish education in the framework of an understanding of educational philosophy, psychology, methods of teaching, psychotherapy and educational sociology. This effort to inter-relate Jewish and general themes is claimed as the special contribution of the Encyclopedia.

Volume 1 of the Encyclopedia appeared in 1957, and Volume 2 is now in print; the Encyclopedia, when completed, will consist of four volumes.

c. Fiction and Poetry
Congress seeks to rehabilitate Jewish writers who survived the Nazi concentration camps and to help them resume their literary activity. Four younger writers have had books published through Congress assistance.

d. Monographs
Fifteen monographs, dealing with Jewish cultural and social life in Europe for the past half century, have been published in three volumes since 1955 under the general name "Fun Naentn Ovar" (From the Recent Past). 1,117 pages of the monographs have been published and Volume 4 is now in preparation.

Two works have been published as separate volumes, "A Yid in Wald" (A Jew in the Forest) by Berl Kagan and "A Litvak in Poylin", Memoirs by Daniel Charney.

5. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Education Department seeks to:

a. Coordinate the Yiddish and Yiddish-Hebrew schools in the United States and other countries, with particular interest in the schools of the Labor-Zionist movement, the Sholem Aleichem Folk Institute and the Workmen's Circle.

b. Provide the schools and the teachers with up-to-date teaching material and a means of exchanging information and views.

c. Issue a pedagogical journal and bulletins.

d. Help integrate the Yiddish schools into the general Jewish community by cooperation with local Bureau of Jewish Education and the American Association for Jewish Education.

Among the achievements claimed for the Education Department are:

a. Annual essay contests for the pupils of Yiddish schools in New York.

b. A pedagogical quarterly, "Bleter far Yiddisher Dertsieung". Five numbers of this publication appeared but for fiscal reasons including difficulties in foreign exchange, the quarterly has been temporarily suspended.

c. Dramatizations and radio plays for children and adolescents.

d. Public meetings at the beginning of the school year to arouse interest in Jewish education.

A Yiddish language textbook is being prepared for young people attending congregational schools.

Youth Department

During 1950 and 1951 the Congress regularly conducted Youth Forums, and now wishes to reactivate its Youth Department with a more varied program, including forums, seminars, conferences and cultural entertainments.

6. LITERARY AWARDS, RADIO PROGRAMS, MUSIC SECTION

The Congress and its branches in Argentina and Europe have established a number of literary awards, sponsored by various individuals. Awards totalling $20,000 have been distributed to writers and artists in nine countries, as follows: United States, 30; Israel, 16; Argentina, 12; France, 6; Brazil, 2; Mexico, Canada, Switzerland and Denmark, 1 each. (Complete list of awards on file.)

In the past nine years, the Congress has conducted 451 radio programs on Station WEVD, New York, in which more than 100 writers and journalists have participated. Participants are largely on a voluntary basis, and the station provides a half-hour free radio time.

Music Section

In the field of Jewish music the Congress has:

a. Conducted a Music Festival with the participation of 10 people's choruses.

b. Conducted a contest for the best choral composition set to the words of I. L. Peretz's "Comfort My People".

c. Conducted a number of concerts of Jewish music with the participation of a symphonic ensemble, soloists and singers.

d. Supplied music to various organizations and schools in connection with Warsaw Ghetto memorial meetings, celebration of the I.L. Peretz Centennial, etc.

Art Center

The Art Center has sponsored 36 exhibits of Jewish art, including in all the work of 150 artists at various institutions, and has also arranged travelling exhibits on the campuses of Universities, city libraries, Jewish Centers, etc.

155 literary-artistic Saturday evenings have been held and reproductions in color of the work of 5 painters have been published.

Celebrations and Memorial Days

The Congress regards it as one of its tasks to keep alive the memory of important events in Jewish history through public celebrations of anniversaries. Outstanding is the promotion of an annual observance on April 19th of the deaths of the six million who perished in the Ghettos and concentration camps, and assistance has been extended in arranging such meetings in various cities of this country and abroad. Observances have also been sponsored in connection with Peretz, Sholom Aleichem and the Tercentenary Celebration.

7. BUDGET

The annual budget of the organization during the past four years has been between $106,000 and $123,000. Among the foundations and organizations which support the Congress for Jewish Culture are the Atran Foundation, the Jewish Labor Committee, the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, the "Forward" Association, fraternal orders, the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, and three Jewish communities.

With the aid of a field representative, the Congress conducts fund raising campaigns in more than 30 cities. Approximately 3,000 persons contribute annually in addition to subscribers to individual publications.

An enlarged budget is desired for the following stated reasons:

"a) To establish a book-publishing house in Israel. The continuous immigration of Jews to Israel is bringing Yiddish writers there after years of exile in countries behind the Iron Curtain. They should be encouraged to express themselves

creatively. In addition, it is important to provide for translation into Yiddish of important works of modern Hebrew literature."

The Congress this year came to an agreement regarding the establishment of such a publishing house with the Cultural Department of the Jewish Agency in Israel and with the Cultural Department of the Mapai. It has been agreed that the three organizations will be partners in this undertaking as to editorial policy and finances with each of the three investing from seven to ten thousand dollars.

b) To enlarge the work of the Art Center through travelling exhibits and the publication of reproductions of Jewish art.

c) To increase the effectiveness of Jewish education by the publication of modern text-books for Yiddish and Yiddish-Hebrew schools and by the continued publication of further volumes of the Encyclopedia of Jewish Education.

d) To continue the work of protecting the cultural freedom of Jews in lands where this freedom is being threatened.

e) To enlarge the cultural activities by means of lectures, concerts, radio programs and mass celebrations of important dates in Jewish history and literary anniversaries.

f) To publish manuscripts left by distinguished Jewish writers who fell victims to Nazi Germany.

8. STAFF

The professional staff numbers five, exclusive of the considerably larger staff working on a part-time basis in connection with various projects described above and for the most part financed by the Conference on Material Claims.

Executive Secretary; author of the Educational Encylcopedia; graduate of the Teachers Seminary in Wilno.

Director of the Press and Radio Department; writer, author and editor; graduate of a Yeshiva in Poland. (Three days a week.)

Director of the Book Publishing Department, author; graduate of Columbia University.

Field Representative; former leading official of the Yiddish schools in Poland.

Secretary of the Art Center, artist, painter and author.

9. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

It was strongly argued that Yiddish still forms a vital part of Jewish life. The only Jewish dailies in America are printed in Yiddish, and despite recent losses retain a circulation of over 100,000. Various labor groups that are fundamentally Yiddish speaking are still substantial. Outside this country there is vigorous Yiddish creativity; Israeli interest in Yiddish has grown greatly in recent years and in Latin America, Jewish schools are basically taught in Yiddish. No one can foresee the future, it was pointed out, and although it is possible that Yiddish in the distant future will have fewer readers, it is indefensible to ask a people to forego its present cultural needs because of unforeseeable conditions of the future. The American community and the world community will be poorer culturally and artistically if it does not provide outlets in Yiddish. An important part of the life of our generation is imbedded in the Yiddish language and the American community must put equal emphasis on the recording of these experiences as it does on other aspects of the contemporary scene. It was claimed with considerable feeling that Yiddish agencies suffer severely in contrast with other groupings in Jewish life and are thereby deprived of vitally necessary support.

10. PROTECTING JEWISH CULTURAL FREEDOM

The Congress was among the first Jewish organizations to call public attention to the annihilation of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union and the liquidation of Jewish writers, scholars and cultural leaders.

In September, 1955, it sent a memorandum to the Soviet Ambassador in the United States, requesting information on the fate of 450 Yiddish writers, and the status of Yiddish literature and press. When no reply was received, the Congress published a protest in the name of 40 American writers, scholars, academicians and clergymen, and considerable further activity has been undertaken. It is now planned to prepare memoranda for transmission to the United Nations Commission for Human Rights, to further arouse writers, scholars and Intellectuals throughout the world, and to publish pamphlets and articles on the cultural genocide being committed against Soviet Jewry.

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS, INC.

Any report on the cultural activities of the CJFWF must be viewed in the perspective of the agency's role as a membership association of local Jewish federations, welfare funds and community councils. Since its basic function is to assist these local constituents, its research is functional, seeking to serve the needs of its members, rather than constituting pure research. Although historically the CJFWF absorbed the functions of the Bureau of Social Research, which preceded it, and although, as will be seen, its activities impinge significantly on many areas of concern to the study, the distinction between its functioning as a service agency and that of a pure research agency should be borne constantly in mind.

ARCHIVES

The files of the CJFWF contain material of importance to the historian dating back to 1915. A total of over 100 surveys in the health and welfare field are on file from that date until the emergence of the CJFWF in the mid thirties. They report studies in communities throughout the country on problems of family and children's services, recreational and cultural needs, hospital care, population trends and many comparable subjects.

From 1935 to the present, the studies are catalogued by both subject matter and community, and in toto present an impressive insight into Jewish community life during the quarter century that is covered. Some idea of the extenet of these studies may be gained from the fact that there are 64 surveys of care of the aged alone in almost as many communities (some cities have been studied more than once) and similarly full and regular studies have been made of the fields of child welfare, community organization, Jewish education, employment and vocational guidance, family services, health and hospitals, and recreation. Twenty population studies - some of them extensive - have also been made during this period, with New Orleans, Lynn, Massachusetts, and Des Moines having been studied most recently. It should however be emphasized, in keeping with the primarily service responsibility of the CJFWF outlined above, that the role of the CJFWF in many of the studies, particularly in those dealing with population, is to serve as a central consultant. In most cases, local experts have been employed to carry on the active study itself.

The library also contains extensive material on national agencies, dating back to the thirties. Although the prime purpose of gathering these data over the years was to supply information to local communities as an aid in their budgeting, inevitably much of the material deals with the programs of the agencies involved, as well as with fiscal considerations.

Also on file is a complete record of the proceedings at the annual General Assemblies, at which papers and discussions are presented in all the fields already referred to. A catalogued file is maintained in the fields of community organization and social planning including not only the assembly papers but all CJFWF monographs, papers and

reports on these subjects.

A librarian and file clerk service these files

PUBLICATIONS

The CJFWF publishes annually a Yearbook of Jewish Social Services containing an analysis of service and financial statistics in the fields of Jewish family service and child care, service to the aged, and hospital and clinic services. In addition to the extensive analyses of data, the Yearbook also summarizes trends and broad developments in the general fields of its study.

Jewish Communal Services, also produced annually, reports and analyzes the data dealing with fund raising and the distributions of funds for overseas needs, national agencies, and local community services.

These two publications contain the most authoritative and extensive data available anywhere on community finances and planning in America.

Council Publications is an annual listing of all papers prepared nationally or regionally by the CJFWF in the fields of community organization, community relations, health and welfare planning, financing welfare programs and budgeting, in addition to various papers on topics of less general interest. More than 100 titles are listed in the most recent annual Council Publications, (dated July, 1958) which contains many papers analyzing population movements, changing neighborhoods, communal goals and objectives, relationships of the American Jewish community to the general community and to Israel, together with papers concerned with the various functional services.

Also listed in Council Publications is pertinent material appearing in The Jewish Community , a quarterly that is primarily the organ for reporting news and developments in local communities and the CJFWF itself.

RESEARCH

Organizationally, the CJFWF is divided into departments, most of which contribute directly to the research functions of the agency.

The Budget Research Department, in addition to preparing a considerable amount of the material already referred to, prepares budget digests on Jewish agencies which contain data on both

program and finances. Seventy-four such digests were prepared in 1958 and in the absence of a reference volume dealing with the work of Jewish national agencies, they form a major resource in the field. The department is staffed by a director, two research associates and a consultant on overseas studies. In addition, a statistical unit of three professionals is responsible to the Budget Research Department but serves the entire agency.

The consultant on Overseas Studies prepares a series of Israel Fact Sheets and Israel Reports (56 issued) on economic developments affecting the need for American Jewish aid, and analyses of various overseas agencies and problems.

The Social Planning Department, consisting of a Director, two research associates, and a consultant, is largely responsible for the numerous health and welfare studies reported above. The process is a continuing one; it is safe to say that studies and surveys are constantly being undertaken in communities throughout the country with the help of or under the general direction of this CJFWF Department.

The Field Services Department, operating through seven regional offices, reports and analyzes trends and developments in Jewish communal organization. Some 400 visits are made to about 200 communities each year. It perhaps should be noted that the reports of the field directors, going back to the thirties, constitute a unique insight into communal history of recent years, although the material cannot, for obvious reasons, be made available without restrictions. Pilot studies in Jewish communal leadership, provision of guidelines in various fields of communal effort, meeting problems of changing neighborhoods, aiding in formulating effective communal structures are among the functions of this department that have lasting research value.

Worthy of particular mention is a forthcoming volume on the history and trends of Jewish communal organization in America by the immediate past director of the CJFWF.

It seems safe to predict that the historian of the future, seeking to recreate the living experience in American Jewish communities in the middle of the twentieth century, will have to draw heavily on the records of the CJFWF. Its concern with personnel (the "Jewish civil service," as it has been called), basic questions of communal financing, problems of population, movements, developments in the health and welfare fields, forms of communal organization, and relations with Israel all these fundamental aspects of communal life are dealt with and preserved in recorded form more fully by the CJFWF than by any other agency. It is to be hoped that other agencies or scholars, free to conduct "pure" research, will avail themselves of these invaluable records.

DROPSIE COLLEGE

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The original purpose of Dropsie, "the promotion of and instruction in the Hebrew and cognate languages and their respective literatures, and in the Rabbinical learning and literature" remains valid, although in recent years two new divisions have been established: the School of Education, established in 1943, with parallel courses in New York, since 1948, and the Institute for Israel and the Middle East established in 1948.

The prime objective of the Institute for Israel and the Middle East was stated to be the training of a core of American academic specialists in the modern Middle East. It was the first attempt by an American institution of higher learning to offer a full program of Middle East studies (including departments in the languages, political science, economics, social anthropology and Islamic cultural and religious institutions) leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. It was aimed at increasing the understanding of the American public of the problems of the Middle East and of Israel in particular.

It was also hoped that this experiment would capture the imagination of the community because of its broad implications. This hope has not yet been realized and there is no present indication for a better outlook for the future.

An evaluation of Dropsie was conducted in May, 1954, by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, whose basic aim was to determine the degree to which Dropsie was meeting the general academic standards in pusuit of its declared objectives. The report, while making certain suggestions for change and improvement - particularly in reference to the library - is nevertheless commendatory and concludes by stating that Dropsie "is a sound institution, carrying out its program exceptionally well."

2. PLANS AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

a. Plans for the foreseeable future include a graduate department of American Jewish history. It is contended that although some work in this direction now takes place at the Jewish Theological Seminary, and there may be courses on the subject in some universities, there is as yet no full scholarly and graduate department devoted to this important subject.

The student body is presently composed of about 30 per cent Christian students and their number is growing constantly. Almost all of this group become teachers at various Christian theological seminaries or universities.

In answer to the question as to why this training could not be given elsewhere, it was stated that Dropsie offers training in Hebrew language and literature beyond the advent of the Christian era, which marks the close of interest in Hebrew at non-Jewish institutions. It was further claimed that a fuller training is possible in Hebrew and allied languages at Dropsie than in any of the Jewish seminaries. A department in Hebrew Language and Literature has been established this year covering the entire range of Hebraic development from pre-biblical Hebrew to the Israeli period. It aims at placing Hebrew on an academic par with other Semitic languages for intense specialization on the Ph.D. level. Christian students as well as Jews have been enrolled in the program so that the college hopes that within a period of perhaps ten years there will emerge an American school of Christian Hebraists.

b. In the less immediate future is the hope of establishing a graduate school in Jewish communal service. It was argued that the Jewish community raises in excess of $100,000,000 a year, and the burden falls primarily on the shoulders of community executives who are selected without much importance being attached to Jewish knowledgeability or loyalty. The community as a whole takes no responsibility for Jewish training although the Jewish component is as important as the technical know-how. Dropsie will not undertake "patch-work", but is interested in the full graduate school that would grant a degree on the graduate level. It feels it is now fully equipped as far as the Jewish component is concerned to provide this training, and cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania could be established as far as training in the social sciences is concerned since already student exchanges with that institution have been established. No other present institution could undertake this responsibility without ideological commitment of any kind. It is guessed that an extra budget of about $50,000.00 a year might be sufficient to establish this school.

3. FACULTY

The present faculty consists of eight full-time professors and eight part-time faculty members, including visiting lecturers. The salary range if from $6,000.00 to $10,000.00. The entire faculty has the degree of Ph.D, and full time men have permanent tenure after three years. Part-time contracts are arranged on an individual basis. The implementation of a pension system which has been worked out with the Philadelphia Federation is imminent.

The contributions of individual faculty members and of Dropsie College itself to Jewish scholarship are too numerous for detailed reporting. Particular reference, however, is made to the Dropsie College Apocrypha Literature Series, which constitutes a major contribution to the religious literature of Christianity and Judaism.

In addition to the faculty, the entire staff of Dropsie consists of the administrative assistant to the president, a registrar, two full-time and one part-time secretary, a bookkeeper, two library clerks and a maintenance man. There is an executive vice president in New York who is administrative director of the Extension Department and in charge of work with Welfare Funds.

4. STUDENT BODY

There are presently enrolled in the college 14 Fellows who receive $600.00 a year. There are in addition 125 students in all departments in various stages of working for their degree.

Question was raised as to the number of students attending each of the classes but it was not possible to secure any information on this subject at the present time. The statement was made that no such records are required from the various professors and the central office does not know the number of enrollees for any particular course.

5. ALUMNI

A total of 133 students have been awarded the Ph.D. degree and two have been awarded a Master's degree during the history of the institution. A complete analysis of the placement of every alumnus of the school since its founding was submitted, indicating that all three theological institutions have Dropsie graduates on their faculty and in addition, Bureaus of Jewish Education and other Jewish communal institutions have drawn on graduates for leadership. The continuing need for graduates of this type of training seems established; the problems are of recruitment and training rather than placement.

6. JEWISH QUARTERLY REVIEW

No manuscripts are solicited nor is there any real advance planning of the Review. No payment is made for articles and although there continues to be an ample number of manuscripts submitted, there was a feeling that this number was decreased in recent years. Considerable thought is now being given to means of putting the Review on a sounder fiscal basis.

7. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees consists of 21 men of whom 12 are from Philadelphia, four from New York, and one each from Washington, D.C., Rochester, Newark, Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Despite this heavy concentration in Philadelphia and Dropsie's contribution to the city (it has practically staffed Gratz College), nevertheless in view of its program

its recruitment of student body from all parts of the country and abroad and the wide dispersal of its alumni, Dropsie strongly claims to be a national (or international) institution.

It is apparent that the faculty meets regularly but it was not possible to secure the minutes at this time for review and it would appear that basic decisions are made by the president and the faculty, and that the Board of Governors, which by charter is self-perpetuating, leaves fundamental policy making to the president. A group of committees of various members of the Board of Governors will now assume responsibility in their respective areas.

8. LIBRARY

A rapid review was made of the library which consists of approximately 75,000 volumes. Not all of it is yet catalogued and it was apparent at the time of the study that the library is in need of considerable help and organization if it is to make its resources available in an effective fashion. Fortunately, steps have subsequently been taken by the university (summer of 1959) to provide this needed study and reorganization of the library.

The manuscript division of the Dropsie College Library contains a rich and important collection of documentary material relating to American Jewry during the nineteenth century. Chief among its collections are the papers of Isaac Leeser, (1806-1868). No study of Jewish life in the United States, within this formative period, can be complete without recourse to this collection.

The papers of Sabato Morais (1823-1897) contain much material on the founding of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America; an important correspondence with the French and Italian rabbinate and a selection of unstudied Hebrew documents comprising responsa and historical manuscripts.

The Mayer Sulzberger papers cover the period between 1865 and 1920. They contain the basic documents relating to the American Jewish Committee, some material relating to the Jewish Publication Society of America at the turn of the century and the Schechter-Sulzberger correspondence relating to the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Other collections, more limited in scope but of local interest are: the papers of Charles J. Cohen, the papers of Moses A. Dropsie and an unexamined collection deposited by Cyrus Adler.

It is estimated that all of these collections may total some 25,000 individual pieces of manuscript.

9. NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There has been considerable concern at Dropsie at the lack of a national constituency. To remedy this situation, work has been proceeding for the past year on organizing a National Advisory Committee representing a cross section of the Jewish community throughout the country. 100 men of prominence have already accepted appointment to the Committee and the hope is to raise the number to 125 in the coming weeks. The list, which was submitted for review, includes academicians, leaders of welfare funds, prominent community personalities and a group from Phialdelphia. It is expected that the Committee will meet once a year on Founders Day to participate in the ceremonies and to address itself to the task of building wider support for the college. The committee is still in the process of being organized and no meeting has therefore been held but it is ultimately hoped to integrate the members of this Committee into the various working committees of the Board of Governors.

10. FUND RAISING FROM WELFARE FUNDS

Formal applications requesting community subvention are regularly sent to welfare funds throughout the country and publicity is sent from time to time to Executive Directors and Presidents. Occasionally a representative of Dropsie will visit an individual community (Boston and Atlantic City have been so visited during the past year) but no fund-raiser is engaged on a regular basis. The hope is to strengthen these routine contacts with communities by securing more local adherents, and much hope is placed on the Advisory Committee in this regard. During the coming year it is hoped to use the assistant to the President for visits. to a number of communities where no real support has as yet emerged. The New York support is "terribly inadequate". It is planned to sponsor a number of symposia in New York to which people of some status will be invited, thus hopefully building support for the institution.

11. NEW YORK EXTENSION

There are 27 students in attendance in various classes this year in New York, an increase of ten over last year, and confidence was expressed that the number could easily be raised to 50. Some concern has been expressed that if the New York branch grows too vigorously, it might turn out to be "the tail that wags the dog". However, in order to get a Ph.D. degree, a student must spend at least one year in residence in Philadelphia.

A number of the students in New York are not interested in a Ph.D. degree, but it is hoped that eventually the New York Extension will act as a conduit which will feed students to Philadelphia. The director was however,

unable to furnish any data as to the number of students that had actually gone from New York to Philadelphia. Confidence was nevertheless expressed that the Extension would be a "seed bed" for the mother institution.

A strong plea was made for the need for a continuing Dropsie College. It is the only non-theological institute of scholarship, with no religious axe to grind, it was claimed, and although scholarly courses are sometimes offered at the various seminaries, many students, Christian scholars, and even rabbis prefer instruction without the specific coloration inevitable in the other institutions.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

Although the major function of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion is to educate men for the American Reform rabbinate, an increasing emphasis is being placed on training for general Jewish scholarship, as distinguished from preparation for the rabbinate. A Graduate Department, maintained for years, has been expanded to a full Graduate School, authorized since 1949 to grant the Ph.D. degree at the Cincinnati school. The New York division has also been authorized by the Board of Regents of New York State for the award of the Ph.D. degree, but no such degree has as yet been granted.

At the present time there are approximately 10 Jewish students actively pursuing a Ph.D. degree and 12 to 15 Christian students. Experience indicates that perhaps two Ph.D. degrees are awarded over a period of three years. Three years of residence are required, but the major criterion by far is the competence of the scholar.

It was stressed that no graduate program in this field can hope to be successful unless the individual scholars are supported to some degree through an appropriate system of fellowship awards. It is unrealistic to expect a mature scholar who has the potential of achieving a Ph.D. degree in Judaica to make the required sacrifices of time without any kind of fiscal support. It addition, a student choosing the scholarly field is almost certain to receive a post on graduation that pays substantially less than a rabbinical position - a further discouragement to entering the field. The Graduate School has fellowships available to properly qualified students ranging from $1,800 for single students to $2,400 for married students, and it is a measure of the substantial growth of the school that there is now competition for the fellowships available in contrast to the situation a decade ago when there were more fellowships than there were applicants.

It is felt that institutions whose primary responsibility is to train rabbis are in a position to operate graduate schools since there is a far greater readiness to support the training of rabbis than of general Jewish scholars. A graduate department or school, which always requires considerable subsidy, can be supported within the total budget of the broadly based institution. Supporting a graduate school in isolation from any other activity was, it was felt, a far more difficult undertaking.

Another difficulty is the problem of providing outlets for scholars who have attained the Ph.D. degree. HUC-JIR has for the most part met this problem by making teaching appointments available to its own Ph.D. graduates, at least on a temporary basis until it is possible

to measure teaching ability and scholarly achievement by actual performance. Until recently, very few placements have been made at other institutions but it is hoped that the increasingly common establishment of chairs of Jewish studies in various universities will provide more career opportunities for Jewish scholars.

In general, it was felt that scholars trained at HUC-JIR enjoy certain advantages over those trained at universities that grant the Ph.D. degree in Judaica because of HUC's stronger linguistic department. In addition, it was suggested that the Bible faculty at HUC-JIR is probably the largest in existence anywhere. It was recognized on the other hand that some of the universities might offer advantages as to opportunities in related disciplines, and as a result graduate students are encouraged to take a year's training at other institutions.

PUBLICATIONS

HUC-JIR has always felt an obligation to aid members of its faculty to publish meritorious scholarly work. Commercial publishers for the most part are not interested in undertaking this type of responsibility since it is extremely rare for books in this field to meet expenses. History indicates that faculty members have often spent considerable time and energy in attempts to secure commerical publication before the college undertook the responsibility of publishing the work. The modest funds available for this purpose were exclusively spent in publishing and no funds were available for publicizing or distributing the work after it was printed. As a result, in many cases scholarly work printed by the HUC not only represented almost a total financial loss but failed to reach the places where it would be of interest.

To remedy this situation, arrangements were made with University Publishers, Inc. in 1958 to undertake the publishing of HUC's scholarly works since it was recognized that it was not likely that the university could justify establishing its own press at any time in the future. The technical competence and the professional help available through this agency will make it possible, it is hoped, for scholarly volumes not only to be printed but to be distributed more widely. Incidentally, it is also hoped to avoid the almost total financial loss that has been the experience in the past. Funds available for publication under the new arrangement can be utilized on an increasingly revolving basis, even though it is recognized that there will inevitably be deficits in connection with this kind of work.

These hopes for the future have been stated by the Provost of the institution as follows: "We can begin to see our way clear to a planned publication program of books to appear at regular intervals; we can glimpse a financial return on our books which makes the investment in some single book not an expenditure promptly to be written off, but rather

something pertaining to a revolving fund, with successive investments leading in the direction of giving us a self-sustaining activity. We have no pressing desire to make money out of our publishing. Indeed, we are prepared to lose some or all on publications which are meritorious. But there is all the difference in the world between subsidizing a book of value, on the one hand, and, on the other, needlessly expending funds to no end.

And, finally, I should want our faculty not diverted from teaching or scholarship; when a professor becomes an amateur publisher, even of his own book, his teaching and scholarship must suffer. At the worst, he has consumed time fruitlessly; at the best, he has consumed time and efforts unintelligently and frustratingly. "

An indication of the productivity of the faculty is to be found in the fact that during the present scholastic year over 30 scholarly works have been produced by faculty members - a rather typical annual product. HUC-JIR encourages such productivity in many appropriate ways and expects its faculty to enrich their fields by appropriate scholarly works.

The major direct contribution of the Hebrew Union College to the scholarly field is its Annual, published in hard covers. It typically includes over 500 pages of scholarly work by scholars of international standing from all parts of the world and is certainly one of the most distinguished publications in the field of Judaica appearing anywhere in the world.

The Library at HUC-JIR publishes Studies in Bibliography and Book Lore twice a year. The bibliographical material so included has constituted a valuable contribution to the field of Jewish scholarship.

It is hoped in the coming years to establish a Hebrew Union College Review, using the constituency of Reform Judaism as a base, but appealing to the general Jewish public. It is felt that a high quality review aimed at the college trained and intelligent Jewish audience that is nevertheless almost illiterate Jewishly can fill a vacuum that is not presently being met by any other publication. The project is as yet only in the early stages of consideration.

As to the general publishing field, it was felt that although quality must be a basic criterion for all communally supported publications, it is extremely difficult to establish additional standards. Jewish publishing houses should compete with commercial publishers in a spirited fashion, and need not necessarily limit themselves only to the narrowly scholarly field in which commercial

publishing houses are for the most part uninterested. Their operations should be as free as possible from lengthy and ponderous procedures so that qualified material should not be delayed lengthily because of complicated committee processes. The leadership of commercial publishing houses should be free to publish dynamic Jewish materials of all sorts and should be judged by their total product, rather than being constantly faced by many procedural difficulties. They ought to aim at being more than antiquarian organizations.

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE LIBRARY

(Digested from a statement prepared by its Librarian)

Historically the Hebrew Union College Library in Cincinnati began with the founding of the College in 1875, when it became apparent that a general Judaica collection, and not only a secondary support to the curriculum, was needed. Through the years it has become one of the most effectively organized libraries of its type in the world. Although it continues to support the curriculum, it now caters not only to the research needs of its own faculty but also the needs of scholars and laymen throughout the world.

The books are shelved in a multi-tier stack of four levels that will hold about 150,000 volumes comfortably. In addition there are three rooms for special collections: the Manuscript and Rare Book Room, the Spinoza Room, and the Music Room.

The Music Room houses perhaps the largest and finest collection of Jewish music in the world. Along with the liturgical, folk, and other specifically Jewish music, the library collects biographies of Jewish composers of non-Jewish music.. Perhaps the most important part of the collection is the group of some 3000 manuscripts containing the basic source material for the history and development of Jewish music in Europe in the past several centuries.

Another special room contains the Spinoza Collection, one of the finest in the world. Here are early editions in many languages of Spinoza's works and many monographs on Spinoza's life and works and the works of those who influenced Spinoza markedly and those who were influenced strongly by him.

The focal point in the library, however, is the Manuscript and Rare Book Room. This modern part of the 25 year old building is a decorative vault of stainless steel and brass. Among the approximately 6,000 volumes housed in the room are 70 Hebrew incunabula and another 70 non-Hebrew incunabula of Jewish interest. The Hebrew incunabula represent perhaps half of the Hebrew books known to have been printed

in the fifteenth century. There are also more than 1500 Hebrew books of that century.

There are also Hebrew rarities of more recent years, including early and rare books in Judeo-German, Judeo-Spanish, Judeo-Greek, and other vernaculars written in Hebrew characters; non-Hebrew books of the sixteenth century, including some unusual Bible editions; a collection of editions in various languages of the works of Josephus. The collection of early Jewish Americana is outstanding and perhaps the most heavily used section of rare books.

Also in the room is the general manuscript collection. Ranging from the tenth century (and even earlier for several fragments) to recent times are very important codices of Biblical books, legal material, communal records, scientific and pseudo-scientific tracts in Hebrew as well as highly artistic and beautifully illuminated manuscripts which are invaluable for the history of art among Jews. The library has what may very likely be the largest collection of Samaritan manuscripts in the United States and it is the only possessor in the world of a group of Chinese-Jewish manuscripts.

Like any other research library, the Hebrew Union College Library has maps, microfilms, microcards, recordings, pamphlets and other unusual items like a book plate collection; but the problems of housing and organizing them are similar to those faced by most other libraries. The problem that is probably more peculiar to it than to most is that of language, especially in main entries. Since so many of the books are in non-Roman alphabets, transliteration of names is necessary in order to maintain Roman alphabet main entries.

To service all these materials and a great deal more, there is a staff of 12 which includes two persons who have subject doctorates, two rabbis, and a staff member who has specialized in Hebrew books of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. One person is officially the circulation-reference contact, but every professional member of the staff is involved directly with selection, cataloging, and reference activity.

A hand binder and Photostat operator are also on the staff. The library is equipped with a full bindery to take care of rare and unusual items, although a large amount of the regular binding is done by commercial binders. The fully automatic Photostat machine is kept busy by the library and other departments. It is used largely to duplicate original material requested by libraries and scholars outside Cincinnati.

Not unlike other rapidly growing libraries, space is becoming a prob-

lem. To correct all this and to provide additional space for books and staff, a wing that will be integrated with the present structure is now being planned. The new entity now being built will be a model functional library building.

HISTADRUTH IVRITH OF AMERICA

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Histadruth Ivrith (Hebrew Language and Cultural Association) was founded in 1916 in New York with the aim of spreading Hebrew culture and language use. Among its founders were Ben Gurion, Ben-Zvi and Ben Yehuda. The original public aimed at was those who knew Hebrew, and the projects undertaken by the organization in its earlier years were almost exclusively directed at a Hebrew speaking audience. This origiral limited objective has been considerably modified in the direction of working with the far larger public that is not acquainted with Hebrew. To serve this purpose, increasing emphasis has been placed on adult education, work with schools, youth work, and establishment of courses for beginners in Hebrew. The aim is to make the study of Hebrew fashionable and to create an atmosphere of Hebrew creativity.

2. PROGRAM AND SERVICES

a) Publications

The agency publishes the only Hebrew weekly in America, "Hadoar", and has also more recently published a newspaper for youth, "Hadoar Lanoar", on a bi-weekly basis. This is designed for use in Jewish schools and is somewhat similar in format and appeal to the paper used widely in Sunday schools, "The World Over".

There is in addition a bi-weekly on the high school and college level, "Musaf Lakorei Hatzair", and a periodical providing an outlet for young Hebrew writers, "Niv" which has been published from time to time during the course of the past three years.

Other publications are described separately in connection with specific projects of the agency.

b) Services for Youth

In general, work with youth has been given increasing attention. It is felt that a Hebrew vacuum has existed on the high school and college level and some outlet must be afforded for young graduates of Yeshivoth or other institutions if they are to retain their lingual competence. Since this area is somewhat outside the field of study of the present assignment, it was not explored in depth. The agency was at pains to point out, however, that it provides dramatics, music and dance activities centered along Hebrew themes and was the first organization in the country to establish a Hebrew speaking camp, Massad.

Considerable stress is also placed on working in cooperation with

the BBYO of Hillel and with the youth departments of various Zionist organizations. With the help of the Department of Culture of the Jewish Agency, it is hoped to establish a special coordinating vehicle for Hebrew work with youth, involving not only the above mentioned organizations, but the youth departments of various national religious organizations.

The Histadruth Ivrith is active in the field of education and has responsibility for the publication of "Shvilay Hachinuch", the organ of the Hebrew Teachers Association. The magazine is published in conjunction with the American Association for Jewish Education and expenses are shared jointly with that organization. In answer to the question as to why the Histadruth should be active in this field in view of the program of the AAJE, it was suggested that the primary interest of the latter organization is in education, whereas the Histadruth has Hebrew as its prime responsibility. Hebrew teachers must have their own Hebrew publication, it was felt, with the stress being on lingual rather than on educational aspects. Total allocation in this field is approximately $2,000, for subvention of the magazine and other support of the Hebrew Teachers Association.

c. Hebrew Courses

An extensive series of courses in Hebrew are provided directly by the Histadruth Ivrith in New York and a few other cities, as well as indirectly through cooperation with various organizations. In cooperation with the Jewish Agency, an Ulpan course in this country was inaugurated this month on an intensive basis, involving 12 hours of class work a week.

Histadruth Ivrith always provides Hebrew courses on three levels - beginning, intermediate and advanced. Increasingly, courses are specifically designed to meet the interests and convenience of youth, housewives and working people. Frequently courses are prepared in cooperation with Hadassah, Pioneer Women, B'nai B'rith, etc. with the Histadruth Ivrith being responsible for preparing materials and curriculum and making teachers available. Simple "newspapers" aimed at a beginning adult audience are also provided. It is estimated at the present time that some 800 to 1,000 students are taking courses in New York City alone.

d. Hebrew Academy

The Hebrew Academy was established in 1956 with the aim of bringing together academicians in the field of Hebrew culture for exchange of views and knowledge. Conferences are held twice a year and the papers are published in the publication, "Prakim". It is also hoped that the Academy will play a significant role in the exchange of views and culture as between Hebraists in Israel and America.

The Academy makes awards for the publication of the best manuscripts submitted to it. Thus far approximately $1,500 has been awarded in this manner, making possible publication of a work on

the Responsa of Gershom and a study of the relationship of Judaism and Islam. All members of the Academy must be connected with institutions of higher learning and must have demonstrated their competence in the learned field by their creative effort. They are elected to membership by the members themselves. Thus far there are 35 members of the Academy and no dues of any kind are assessed.

3. OGEN PUBLICATIONS

Histadruth Ivrith believes that if there is to be Hebrew creativity on the American scene, there must be an outlet for indigenous literary production in Hebrew. For this purpose it has created "Ogen Publications".

"Ogen" does not commission works and claims no difficulty as far as submission of materials is concerned. This year 28 manuscripts were submitted and it is the impression of the editor that the number of manuscripts is increasing both in quantity and quality. The aim is to achieve a balance as between scholarship, belles-lettres and the American and Israeli scenes. However, only works by authors in America are printed. The average "run" of each volume is about 1,000 copies, with some part of each edition distributed within Israel. For this purpose relationships have been established with a number of Israeli publishing and distributing houses. The American distribution is largely to libraries and Hadoar subscribers.

4. CIRCLES AND BRANCHES

Membership in the Histadruth Ivrith is open to anyone who pays a $5.00 membership fee. Two types of membership societies have been established - Circles and Branches - totalling 200 throughout the country. No clear distinction was made between these two types of organizations, except that the Branches are more tightly organized. These groups consist of approximately 100 people who gather periodically for purposes of studying Hebrew or spreading Hebraic culture. Originally these groups were composed almost exclusively of those who were completely competent in Hebrew, but more and more stress has been placed on beginning Hebrew instruction. The central organization provides program suggestions and resource materials, including a monthly recording of Israeli speeches, news events, music, etc. Reports are sent in from each of the local Branches or Circles and "Hadoar" reflects this activity.

5. RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Because of its original limited scope, Histadruth Ivrith for years did not give priority to securing fiscal support from local communities. However, because of its increasing stress on the field of adult education and its wider activity geographically, it now attaches much greater importance to this type of support. No separate fund raiser is engaged, but staff members are used for this purpose. It is estimated that perhaps $2,000 was spent during the past year on this type of activity. Independent campaigns are conducted in Chicago and Los Angeles at the present time in addition to New York.

6. RELATIONS WITH THE JEWISH AGENCY

A number of projects, some of them already referred to, are conducted in cooperation with the Jewish Agency. The Ulpan course is the most recent illustration but a number of other activities are also carried on jointly with the Agency. It is estimated that financial help from the Jewish Agency totals $25,000 to $28,000 a year.

The Jewish Agency for Israel, which has up to now made allocations to the Histadruth Ivrith, will discontinue its assistance towards cultural work in the United States, due to a radical change in the disposition of funds from the United Jewish Appeal. This puts an additional obligation on the local communities towards the Histadruth Ivrith.

7. FUTURE PLANS AND GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The future hopes of the Histadruth Ivrith, in addition to carrying on its present functions more effectively, would be to create a Hebrew paper for the entire family based upon a limited vocabulary so that it could be read with ease in a family setting. Such a paper should appear partly in Hebrew and partly in English and utilize many illustrations so that it could appeal to those with a limited knowledge of Hebrew.

Beginning with October 1960, the Histadruth Ivrith will publish a Hebrew library for children which will issue at least one Hebrew book for children each month. These books will operate with a very limited vocabulary and will contain explanations in English.

JEWISH AGENCY: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Department of Education and Culture was established in this country in 1948. Its program and objectives have been described as follows:

> "1. While no aspect of Jewish education and culture should be alien to the Department of Education and Culture, its major efforts must be directed towards the fostering of wider and deeper knowledge of the Hebrew language and literature, and a better understanding and fuller appreciation of the role of Israel in the destiny of Jewry and Judaism.
>
> 2. To cooperate with and assist existing Jewish educational bodies in enlarging and improving their programs, rather than conducting educational activity under separate auspices.
>
> 3. To initiate educational projects in areas or placed where Hebrew and the study of Israel have not been accorded the interest and attention commensurate with their value and importance."

To accomplish these objectives a variety of activities have been undertaken. Summer seminars for Hebrew teachers have been held in Israel featuring lecturers and courses conducted by Israeli scholars. Over 400 teachers, principals and educational directors have participated in these seminars. Perhaps 800 teachers have participated in the "seminars in reverse" conducted in this country with comparable purposes, utilizing Israeli scholars and teachers available here. These seminars have frequently been held on campuses of various universities. A number of further teachers' training projects have also been held, including regional conferences for Hebrew teachers in ten cities with representatives from more than eighty communities. Various conferences, institutes and refresher courses in Hebrew and problems in Jewish education have also been arranged. Almost all have been held in connection with various American agencies interested in the field of Jewish education.

Question was raised as to the relationship with the American Association for Jewish Education, the National Association of Hebrew Teachers, Histadruth Ivrith and other agencies. The answer given was that the Department of Education and Culture was a pedagogical organization which supplements the work of other, American educational institutions with direct service responsibilities. It provides a cultural orientation and flavor and certain additional services that no existing teachers' organization or educational agency can supply. Similar relationships have led to the provision of scholarships for study in Israel to students preparing for teaching in America and participation in various summer camps with a Hebraic or Israeli commitment.

A monthly wall newspaper "Israel Among the Nations" is also prepared in consultation with Jewish educators and teachers for use in schools. It provides a monthly interpretation of events and developments in Israel. Film strips, films and some books have also been prepared. An illustration of the latter category is a scholarly work on music, "An Anthology of Jewish Music", by Vinaver.

ADVANCEMENT OF HEBREW STUDIES

Various activities have been undertaken aimed at the advancement of Hebrew studies. Financial aid has been extended toward the publication of the Hebrew weekly Hadoar, the monthly Bitzaron, and the scholarly publication Prakim. Subvention has also been made available to the Histadruth Ivrith in the sponsoring of various Hebrew conferences, institutes and forums. The Department is interested in encouraging the opening of Hebrew day schools; its major interest has been defined as assisting in the advancement of the study of Hebrew and Israel reborn, leaving all matters pertaining to ideology and religious affiliation to the particular group of parents sponsoring the day school. Active cooperation has also been extended to the Hebrew Culture Council in the promotion of Hebrew classes in public high schools.

The contributions of modern Hebrew writers are presented in English through a "Monthly Summary and Evaluation" of the more significant books being published in Israel.

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

The Department cooperates with the Hebrew Culture Foundation in sponsoring programs of academic courses in Hebrew and mid-Eastern and Israeli studies in a number of universities. Columbia, Cornell, Kentucky, John Hopkins, New York University, Rutgers and Temple Universities have been extended various kinds of aid in the development of such programs. The Jewish Theological Seminary and Dropsie College have been partners on the Jewish scene. The type of aid extended ranges from providing visiting lecturers for accredited courses to aid in establishing permanent centers for study. In some cases the cooperation has been in connection with the library -- as in the case of Princeton, North Carolina, and Wisconsin -- where more adequate library resources have been developed in cooperation with these universities.

THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Jewish Publication Society was established in its present form in 1888, although there are records of two earlier Societies dating back to 1845, an indication of how early the Jewish community felt the need for publication and distribution of Jewish books. The charter of the present Society states that it was formed "For the publication and dissemination of literary, scientific and religious works giving instructions in the principles of the Jewish religion, which works are to be distributed among the members of the corporation and such other persons and institutions as may use the same in the promotion of benevolent educational work." The present purpose was defined as "the publishing and distribution of books essential to the transmission of the Jewish cultural heritage". The public aimed at is what might be called "the mass intellectuals" - the group just below the level of scholars, who are capable of being interested in Jewish works of dignity and depth.

A major difficulty in full achievement of the stated objective is the lack of funds for "venture capital" in the Jewish publishing field. General publishers know they must occasionally take risks if they are to develop new talent and there is no satisfactory substitute for a subvention to a creative person that hopefully will result in a work of importance. Since there are no guarantees in the creative field, a publisher must be prepared occasionally to make this kind of investment with a full understanding that there may be no returns. Numerous examples were cited of works that could be profitably commissioned if funds were available: a book on Jewish literature in the United States, a series on "The Face of Jewish Life", a new edition of the now outdated "Hebrew Reborn". Scholars of substance have so many demands on their time from the general cultural field that modest advance commitments are crucial to ensure work. The Conference on Jewish Material Claims has demonstrated by its experience how much can result from this procedure, although it does not plan for the cultural field.

Considerable stress was placed on the relationship with commercial publishers. JPS not only cooperates actively with various publishing houses in a number of joint ventures, but frequently directs talent to commercial houses. It is felt that the role of the JPS is essentially to undertake responsibilities that cannot be assumed by general publishers, with their need to assess an offered work in primarily commercial terms.

2. SERVICES AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Two recent ventures demonstrate the ability of JPS to move into new fields beyond its traditional operations.

The Covenant series, launched in 1958, is in effect a Jewish Landmark series aimed at younger people approximately 11 to 15 years of age. Four books in this series have been published each year, with the aim of further volumes at this rate. Ten volumes have by now been published, with two more expected for 1960. JPS guarantees the publisher (Farrar, Straus and Cudahy) five eighths of each volume, with the objective being the sale of 8,000 copies of each book. JPS chooses the subject and the author and approves the manuscript, which is then sent to the publisher for final approval and production. The undertaking can be said to have met with fair success, and trade reception of the series has been good.

The second major recent venture has been the paperback series, done in conjunction with Meridian Press. The project, in the planning stage for seven years, has just been inaugurated. Fourteen titles have now appeared, with four more on the press. The objective is six a year. In this project JPS is the entrepreneur and Meridian is responsible for the distribution beyond the membership of JPS. Approximately two thirds of the paperbacks already printed (6,000 is the minimum "run" for each number) have been sold. Some titles have had to be reprinted. Most titles selected thus far have been reprints of earlier hard covered JPS books, five of them having gone out of print. Not all fourteen are originally JPS. If a book deserves availability, it is made available by arrangement with the original publisher. It is hoped in the future that unpublished materials will also be produced in this form. A fundamental criterion in this project is the salability in the circles to which Meridian caters: intellectuals, colleges, schools in general.

The traditional publishing undertakings of JPS involve the distribution of about 140,000 books a year. Manuscripts submitted for JPS consideration number about 100 a year, and in general it is felt by the editor that the material is not improving in quality or quantity, although many interesting and worthwhile projects and manuscripts continue to be submitted. It is nevertheless clear, as already indicated, that this field requires planning and a degree of subsidization.

Considerable time and energy of the professional staff is given to consultation and advice to Jewish organizations and individuals. The estimate was made that inquiries and calls of all kinds may run as high as 100 a week - from synagogues establishing libraries, study groups of all sorts, individuals and organizations seeking booklists, advice and suggestions. Some of these inquiries are referred to the Jewish Book Council of the Jewish Welfare Fund, but the more basic questions are properly the responsibility of JPS. The relationship with the JWB and the Jewish Book Council is continuing and close: the editor of the JPS edits "In Jewish Book Land" for the JWB publication, The Circle.

Projects have been worked out from time to time with major national Jewish organizations, which also occasionally undertake publications on their own initiative. It is felt that these projects sometimes tend to be sporadic and costly in time and money; it would be helpful if the special competence of JPS were brought to bear more effectively through joint planning with the leading national organizations.

Close relationships are maintained with Israel. The Magnes Press at Hebrew University frequently inquires as to whether JPS wishes to undertake the translation and the publication of a given volume in the United States. Closer relationships in this field are anticipated, and the Executive Director plans to visit Israel soon with the view toward deepening this relationship. The JPS has been recognized as a participant in the government's Information Media Guarantee, which makes possible certain aspects of trade distribution in dollar poor countries. Contacts are also maintained with the Soncino Press of England, the East and West Library of London, Schocken books and the Yale Judaica books.

3. FUTURE PLANS

The following is merely illustrative of the organization's more immediate plans.

a. The Bible Translation

The outstanding JPS project, which should culminate in the late 60's, is the revised edition of the Bible. Work on this project is proceeding satisfactorily, with regular meetings on about a semi-monthly basis of the scholars undertaking the work. Considerable effort has gone into resolving the linguistic problems in modernizing the English of the last version and in utilizing the fruits of recent scholarly effort. The interviewer was enabled to review part of the translation that has already been formulated. Financing of the project has been put on a $150 a sponsor basis in order to provide as wide as possible sponsorship basis for this historic publication. The publication of the Bible, it is hoped, will be followed by companion commentaries, and a Bible adapted for children.

b. Studies in American Jewish History and American Jewish Life

Six volumes are planned in this series, relating fundamentally to American community and organizational history. Cooperation has been established with the American Jewish History Center to avoid duplication in this area, and it is also possible that the AJHS projects will be published by the JPS.

c. A Book on Jewish Philosophy

d. Bialik's prose essays

e. Interpretation of the Mitzvoth throughout Jewish history

f. Readings from the Responsa

In addition to these projects, various undertakings have been or will be made possible through the help of various foundations - The Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, the Littauer Foundation and the Schiff Foundation. These projects include a social and economic history of Jewish life in Russia and Poland, a volume on the intellectual life of Eastern Europe, and a volume on Hebrew poetry.

An extensive outline of projects the agency would like to undertake if funds were available was presented. From this list, the following will serve as fairly typical examples:

a. A series of twenty-five brief volumes covering the entire history of the Jews, each volume devoted to an age or movement. Each volume is to be geared to the needs of the college student or intelligent layman.

b. A series of books on Jewish art, the art of ancient synagogues, illuminated manuscripts, and the like.

c. A history of Jewish literature in two volumes.
d.
d. A history of Yiddish literature in one volume.

e. The Jew in drama and the Jew in the movies.

f. Classics of Jewish literature.

g. A revision of the old Jewish Encyclopedia.

4. STAFF

The staff consists of two professionals. The editor is a Ph.D. from Dropsie College, a graduate of Jewish Theological Seminary, and has taught at Gratz College. He has been with the JPS since 1939. The Executive Director is a graudate of the University of Pennsylvania who did social work and spent a considerable period of time with the Philadelphia Federation before coming to the JPS in 1950.

In addition, there are 16 members of the clerical and shipping staffs. A few of those who fall in the category of "clerical" are also semi-professional and undertake some responsibilities beyond the secretarial level. One person is employed in New York for membership, and one on a part time basis in Los Angeles where a separate committee is maintained with its own officers and structure. Clerical and shipping staffs have been reduced considerably in recent years by the addition of machinery and adoption of other steps aimed at facilitating the business part of the agency.

5. LAY PARTICIPATION

Two basic groups govern the JPS - the Board of Trustees and the general membership. In addition, a Publication Committee carries the responsiblity for the actual work on the editorial side. The Board of Trustees consists of the Officers and 26 members. Ten of the eleven Officers and 5 of the Trustees are from Philadelphia and the remainder scattered through various communities of the country. The Publication Committee has approximately 50 members and is made up of scholars and cultured laymen. It has various subcommittees- on juvenile literature, non-fiction, American Jewish history and the Bible. The editor undertakes the responsibliity of screening the manuscripts initially and then sending them to the appropriate members of subcommittees. Final decision as to publication is in the hands of the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the Publication Committee. Both the Publication Committee and the Board of Trustees meet regularly and the minutes of all meetings are available. The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees meets every other month, as does the Board of Trustees on alternate months, making a total of approximately 8 meetings a year - omitting the summer months. The general membership meets once a year and theoretically has the power of decision. It elects officers and trustees. The membership is presently about 10,980 in number, with approximately half the membership coming from the New York-Philadelphia area.

It was recognized that the procedure governing publication of a given manuscript is at present a rather ponderous one and concern was expressed on this point. It is hoped that this procedure, as well as the entire functioning of the agency, will profit from a self-evaluation under the chairmanship of Dr. Eli Ginzburg that is now in process. The report of this self-evaluation will soon be available. Evaluation has been done and the Publication Committee has been reorganized into subcommittees for greater efficiency.

In addition, in an attempt to understand more clearly the needs and the desires as well as the composition of its constitutency, JPS has undertaken a project in conjunction with a professional research agency which falls within the field of motivational research. Fifteen percent of the membership has received a detailed questionnarie aimed at revealing basic data as to the reasons for joining the JPS, what determines decisions on particular books, as well as information as to the background of the member, his judgment of the Society, and his own cultural views and needs. (Copy of the basic questionnaire is available.)

7. FINANCES

For a period of time ending in the 40's no attempt was made to secure

subventions from Welfare Federations. The JPS, however, now feels that this is an important part of its future planning. Complete statistics are being compiled on the history of subventions by individual communities.

A prime source of income in recent years has been the Schiff Foundation of which the JPS is one of three major beneficiaries. At the present time a part of this fund is marked for American history projects and presumably more will at some future time be made available. The Bible Fund now has a total of $75,387 paid against pledges of $211,533. The aim is for $500,000. In addition, there is a publication fund of $7,834 and a pension fund.

The JPS is planning to renovate its present facilities, which it has occupied for 12 years and which are inadequate, with funds made available by the Schiff Foundation.

JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST FOUNDATION, INC.

1. HISTORY

The Reconstructionist Foundation which developed out of the ideas and activities of Mordecai M. Kaplan and of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism which he founded in 1922, is so well known as to need no repetition in this report. It should, however, be noted that The Reconstructionist magazine developed out of a publication known as The SAJ Review.

The emergence of The Reconstructionist in 1935 as an independent instrument really marked the beginning of the activity of the Reconstructionist movement; for a period of six years it is fair to say that the movement consisted primarily of the magazine. Its purpose was to energize Jewish life by presenting new and challenging ideas stemming from the Reconstructionist philosophy in the hope that established organizations would interpret these ideas in appropriate ways in their own program.

In 1940 it was decided that some organizational form must be created to make possible the translation of the ideas in the magazine and in the movement into the practical life of Jewish affairs. The Reconstructionist Foundation was therefore established for this purpose.

2. MEMBERSHIP: FINANCES: STAFF

The Foundation is established on a membership basis, with any individual eligible for membership who pays the $10.00 minimum dues and subscribes in general to the Reconstructionist point of view. There are now 2,000 members with perhaps two-thirds in the three centers of New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, and the rest scattered throughout the country. In addition, there is a Reconstructionist Fellowship of Congregations, founded in May, 1955, which at the present time totals seven congregations.

The governing body of the Foundation is made up of a national Council, limited by the by-laws to a maximum of 100 members, which now consists of 54 members. Members of th3 Council are elected at annual conferences of the membership and in turn select the 25 members of the Board of Trustees, which meets monthly and is in effect the actual governing body of the Foundation.

Income from memberships and subscriptions has varied between $12,000 and $15,000 a year, and about $35,000 has been realized from individual contributions of more substantial sums than membership dues. Very little money has been received from welfare funds. No full-time fund raiser has been engaged although the recently appointed president considers fund raising and improving the financial position of the movement one of his responsibilities. Neither The Reconstructionist nor the various publications to be described later have had any important budgetary effect, since they are primarily "in and out" items in the budget. A modest revolving publication fund has been established to guarantee publication of individual volumes occasionally do not pay for themselves.

The staff of the Foundation consists of a President, an executive secretary, who combines the responsibilities of office manager with certain professional duties, and a part time director of publications. There are in addition one secretary, and two (2) part-time stenographers.

3. THE RECONSTRUCTIONIST

The Reconstructionist has a circulation of approximately 5,800. The audience sought is the literate Jewish reader, both lay and professional - essentially the opinion makers in Jewish life. Some attempt has been made to analyze the present readership through a questionnaire that was recently sent to subscribers, and the results indicate that rabbis, community leaders, Jewish professionals and others in similar key positions are widely represented among the Reconstructionist readers.

The Reconstructionist claims to be far more than a house organ and its articles are not designed only for the use of its own membership; rather it conceives of itself as being a contributor to the main stram of American Jewish thought. With the exception of the editorials, the material does not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the editors, although the magazine feels that it is distinguishable from a number of other periodicals in that its subject matter does have a relationship with the broad interests of Reconstructionism.

For a considerable period of time after its founding, the magazine utilized almost exclusively material that came to it unsolicited - except for the editorials. In recent years increasingly greater emphasis has been placed on planning the material and a sliding scale of payment has been introduced with a maximum of approximately $50 for any one article. A procedure of holding regular semi-annual meetings to evaluate issues of the magazine and plan further materials has been established. The editorial section is also a result of bi-weekly group consultation, with individual members of the Board of Editors being assigned the responsibility of writing the agreed editorials.

In general, the distinctive tone and emphasis of The Reconstructionist were emphasized; it is essentially an evaluative and critical review of the communal scene and developments in Jewish life that bear upon the fundamental Reconstructionist thesis of invigorating Jewish living with due regard to both traditional Jewish values and the needs of a modern democratic society.

4. PUBLICATIONS

The early experiences of the Reconstructionist movement with publications resulted from felt needs growing out of its program. For example, its attitude toward prayer created the heed for prayer books and a Haggadah that would reflect its philosophy, and as a result both of these Reconstructionist publications came into being. They went through a process of appearing in mimeographed form and being extensively used before finally appearing in book form. Since these early beginnings, a number of books have appeared directly as a function of the Reconstructionist Press rather than, as was the case in the early days, through sponsorship of a commercial publication. The books that have been published have largely been directed to the philosophy of Reconstructionism, although occasionally other material

(including one novel) has been published. Approximately 25 books have been published by the Reconstructionist Press, exclusive of the volumes specifically devoted to synagogue use and a number of books and pamphlets designed to meet program needs. The present general tendency is to stress almost exclusively the publication of books that are planned by the Reconstructionist Foundation, rather than to undertake responsibility for manuscripts submitted to it. It will probably increasingly stress books with a direct relationship with Reconstructionist objectives, and there is a possibility that the text book field will soon be entered.

A usual experience recently has been to publish books with a "run" of 2,000 to 3,000 copies, with some of them meeting expenses.

It was emphasized that the Reconstructionist Press, consistent with the Reconstructionist idea in general, has no institutional pride and would be willing to explore closer means of cooperation with the Jewish Publication Society or other publishers. No ideological difficulties would preclude such an exploration, it was stated. However, the Reconstructionist Foundation would wish to be assured that volumes which are of significance to it would be enabled to appear.

A further project has been the Foundation Pamphlet Series which includes nine titles, all concerned with various phases of the philosophy of the Reconstructionist movement.

5. FUTURE PLANS AND HOPES

The Foundation is directly interested in the publication of a new commentary on the Humash and is in general interested in research into Jewish life and communal trends. More specific examples of its interest in this last category include a desire for research into problems of community organization and of Jewish education on all levels. It would like to expend its present interest in the development of religious life in Israel along other than Orthodox directions.

Perhaps most significant, if funds were available, it would welcome the opportunity to establish demonstration projects by which the validity of its ideas could be tested - in classrooms, in synagogues, etc. Subsidizing of individuals is also part of its hope for creation of materials of importance in furthering its general objectives.

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY:
LIBRARY AND STATEMENT ON
URGENT CULTURAL NEEDS

NOTE:

The statements on the next nine pages were submitted by the Jewish Theological Seminary. They include a review of the Seminary Library's present status and the problems it faces, plus a suggested program for cooperative cultural services submitted by the Seminary itself.

LIBRARY OF THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Seminary Library was dedicated over fifty years ago with the aim of achieving as complete a collection as possible of all the works of Jewish learning written in Hebrew and other languages, and of serving as the basic source for all scholarly research in the field of Judaica and Hebraica.

Since the destruction or dispersal of all the great Jewish libraries of the continent of Europe, the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary represents the largest single collection of Jewish books and manuscripts extant, and probably the largest ever assembled in all history. It has 200,000 printed volumes and nearly 10,000 manuscripts, covering Bible and Rabbinics, theology, liturgy, history, philology, science, literature, law, philosophy, Jewish art, Zionism, medicine and social work.

In addition, the Library owns nearly 15,000 leaves from the Cairo Genizah containing letters, documents, responsa, and fragments of many lost or unidentified works; and outstanding collection of Biblical scrolls and codices; a fine collection of manuscripts of early Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic Bible commentaries, as well as early Jewish translations of the Bible into Arabic; manuscripts relating to Rabbinic law, Jewish philosophy, theology, and mysticism; early Hebrew poetry and liturgy; and medieval scientific texts in Hebrew, Arabic and Judeo-Persian.

SERVICES

The Seminary Library is now the major source of original materiel used by Jewish and non-Jewish scholars alike in their researches into Jewish law and lore and is in fact indispensable for any original work relating to the Jews and Judaism.

Its prize collection of printed volumes has made the Seminary Library the outstanding museum of Jewish books in the world. Not only is it a center for Jewish research, but it is also an outstanding center for general bibliographical research and is today always included in censuses of rare and old books.

To keep its collections current, the Library also exchanges publications with a number of institutions, outstanding among which is the Library of Congress. The Seminary Library has furnished the Library of Congress with several hundreds of volumes of liturgy and modern Hebrew literature, while the Library of Congress has enabled the Seminary to keep its publications up to date with books on Jewish subjects that appeared in Europe between 1938 and 1945. The Library has also regularly exchanged volumes with Yale University, providing Yale with Seminary publications and receiving in return the archaeological and Judaica publications of the Yale University Press. Recently the Library exchanged publications

with the State of Israel, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Columbia University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville), University of Upsala (Sweden), as well as individual collectors. Scholars not within easy reach of the Library often require the use of some of its rare books and manuscripts, and the Library therefore conducts an extensive interlibrary loan and photostate service. Each year the Library mails hundreds of volumes to universities and many public libraries throughout the United States. The aid of the Library is often solicited for exhibits and in recent years the Library has loaned exhibition materials to many cultural institutions, churches and the national mass media. (A complete list of the institutions was submitted.)

In the course of its fifty-five year history, the authors of several thousand books, monographs and articles have expressly acknowledged their indebtedness to the Seminary Library and to the unique collections which have made their research possible. These diversified researches include the work of renowned Christian scholars like the late Professor George Foote Moore who, in preparing his classic work on Judaism, drew freely on the Library's resources; Paul Kahle, Oxford, (formerly of Bonn University) who made extensive use of the Seminary's Genizah fragments; journalists who often need a rare reference or a rare picture from the Seminary's large collection of prints, photographs and works on the history of art.

The Seminary Library is often approached by non-Jewish scholars who need help with references to Jewish subjects touching upon their research, and these publications testify to the influence of the Library beyond the scope of purely Jewish research. Several European scholars have come to the United States for the specific purpose of using the Library's resources.

Through the Louis Ginzberg Memorial Microfilm Fund, the Library is making available to scholars in the United States the resources of Hebrew manuscripts found in Libraries throughout the world. Large portions of the manuscript collections of the Escorial in Madrid, the Vatican in Rome, the British Museum, Bodleian Library (Oxford) and Cambridge University have already been received. Negotiations with libraries in Leningrad, Warsaw and Budapest are under way.

The Library's print collection has been built up over the years and represents an indispensable source of pictorial material for scholars, book illustrators, and laymen. Through the generosity of some friends, the vital work of cataloging this important collection has been undertaken. It is hoped that the catalog eventually will be published.

A special project, recently completed, is the microfilming of 50,000 leaves of the manuscript collection relating to the history and life of Oriental Jewish communities, for the Ben Zvi Institute in Jerusalem.

NEEDS

The Seminary has become the custodian and trustee of this great collection as a result of the foresight of an earlier generation of Seminary leadership at a time when the American Jewish community was not yet alive to its cultural responsibilities.

It is the privilege of the Seminary to make these facilities available for fruitful use for the benefit of all those who search for knowledge. Our task, as a cultured community, is to preserve and augment the Library's irreplaceable contribution to human civilization. Many items in the Library have survived through the centuries, through wars, pogroms and repeated pillaging. But the passage of time and improper care have left their scars. Too many of these treasures have leaves that are ragged and yellowed, writing that is dulled, and binding that is reduced to a few shreds of canvas.

Temperature and humidity control: The useful life of all paper is adversely affected by exposure to heat, light, dry air, sulphur dioxide fumes, excessive dampness, dust, and careless handling. The deterioration resulting from exposure to any or all of these conditions is more noticeable in the poorer grades of paper. Discoloration and embrittlement of newsprint may be obvious in a short period. While deterioration may be less apparent in other papers during the same period, in the course of time all papers suffer and will eventually break down. Thus, the control of temperature and humidity, particularly in the manuscript room, is the most important item to be considered.

Lamination: One of the most pressing challenges which face the American Jewish community is the preservation of the Seminary's invaluable collection. It is no small responsibility to have 15,000 leaves from the Genizah which nature preserved in Egypt for a thousand years. The thirty-five years that they have been here have wrought havoc with their physical state. The autographs of Maimonides were disintegrating because of the New York air and desperate attempts have been made to salvage them. The preservation of the precious documents by lamination so that they will be available a century from now is an expensive proposition, and there are several thousand such documents. It is not impossible that without lamination in the year 2100 there will be no Genizah in the United States. It is of the utmost urgency, therefore, to undertake the task of leminating these documents. For $20,000 the entire Genizah could be put into permanent form.

Binding and Microfilm: The problem of preservation becomes staggering because of an inability to provide proper care. At least half of the manuscripts are falling apart and need rebinding. About 8,000 manuscripts will require slip cases to protect them from dust. In our division of printed books, the irreplaceable treasures of Eastern European books printed after 1839 are rotting and decaying, for after that date the Eastern European printers began to print on cheap pulp paper. Sulphur dioxide and other noxious gases in the air of New York City are inimical to such paper. These books cannot be replaced for the Eastern European presses are gone; either the paper needs to be cured, or the books must be microfilmed. Some precious Jewish newspapers are already lost to history forever, because there was no money ten years ago when there was still time to microfilm them.

Space: In the Rare Book Room space is needed in the near future for 5,000 additional books, and in the Manuscript Room, for an additional 1,500 manuscripts. Within the next ten years space in the stacks for an additional 50,000 volumes will be required if the present rate of acquisitions is maintained.

Cataloging: The system employed in cataloging the Library's vast resources in the fields of Hebraica and Judaica are now woefully outdated. Shifts of emphasis in the materials themselves and ever changing technical methods of classification and cataloging have resulted in the need for an extensive revision of the catalog of printed books. Of the nearly 10,000 manuscripts and 15,000 Genizah fragments housed in the Seminary's Manuscript Room, the vast majority are unknown to scholars and researchers. The need for a complete catalog of the Seminary's manuscript holdings is most urgent. Equally important is the publication of such a catalog so that the information may be available to all scholars the world over.

The Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary has an importance far beyond the confines of the Seminary buildings. It probably constitutes the greatest single cultural treasure of the American Jewish community, and its preservation, maintenance and development, it is felt, should be a communal responsibility.

A PROGRAM FOR COOPERATIVE CULTURAL SERVICES

Urgent Cultural Needs of the Total American Jewish Community
as seen by The Jewish Theological Seminary of America

January 19, 1959

Established in 1887 for the training of rabbis for American pulpits, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America has remained dedicated to this purpose. However, the Seminary has always recognized that the training of young men for the Conservative Rabbinate in America can be successfully accomplished only by an institution firmly grounded both in historical Judaism and in American tradition. Therefore the Seminary has from its inception embraced all of Judaism, accepting cultural and other elements as essential facets of Jewish religion. Evidence of this attitude is to be found in the whole roster of Seminary activities which consciously serve the total Jewish community. Examples are the Teachers Institute - Seminary College of Jewish Studies, which prepares teachers for all types of Jewish education; the Cantors Institute and Seminary School, the Women's Institute, and the Living Book; the Seminary Library; the Jewish Museum; the University of Judaism in Los Angeles; the Institute for Religious and Social Studies; the Herbert H. Lehman Institute on Ethics; the Seminary Israel Institute; the American Jewish History Center; the Eternal Light on radio and television; the Universal Brotherhood Program, etc.

All of these programs were designed to meet a community need, all were set up to serve all facets of the American Jewish community, and all were devised to fill gaps in the communal structure which appeared to be overlooked by other Jewish institutions and organizations. In presenting this memorandum to the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, the Seminary is putting aside its own internal needs, and addressing itself solely to what it considers emergency community situations - critical vacuums in the general cultural services of the Jewish community. The Seminary and other religious and cultural organizations have been attempting to fill some of these gaps. However, in view of the critical nature of the present need, this institution is now ready to pool its efforts in these suggested areas with those of other like agencies in order that the total Jewish community may be better served in the cultural field.

I. - Preservation of the Archives

Over the years, the Seminary library has grown from the nucleus originally presented to the institution by Judge Mayer Sulzberger, until today it houses 10,000 manuscripts and 200,000 printed volumes. It is the largest collection of Hebraica and Judaica in the world, and the tragic destruction of all related libraries in Eastern Europe has deplorably added to its value. It can fairly be said that the preservation of this unique library is the responsibility, not only of the institution which houses it, but of the entire Jewish community.

The 10,000 manuscripts in the present library collections are deteriorating rapidly under the conditions imposed by the New York climate. This collection includes fragments from the Cairo genizah which survived centuries in the dry, dust-free atmosphere of Cairo. It would be tragic indeed if these fragments which have been preserved through so many

centuries should be lost now. Scholars throughout the world use these fragments. Many have been microfilmed, to facilitate their use by scholars in other cities. But the permanent preservation of these unique manuscripts requires that each piece be laminated between sheets of Japanese silk, a process costing almost $10 per fragment. Further, the entire collection should be microfilmed, one copy of the film should be place in a safe respository, remote from urban centers, and additional copies whould be circulated freely to other libraries and to individual scholars. Finally, special climate control units should be installed in the rooms and cases in which the originals are kept.

The condition of part of the collection of printed books is very little better than the condition of the manuscripts. Many of the books and periodicals published in Europe in the 19th and first half of the 20th century were virtually destroyed in the second World War. Those copies which survived, and frequently the examples in the Seminary Library are virtually unique, are literally crumbling away, because they were printed on an inferior grade of paper. Several generations of Jewish scholarship are thus in danger of disappearing completely unless immediate steps are taken for their preservation. Some of these books and articles should be reprinted, so that copies can become available in other libraries. All should be microfilmed, and the films stored in a safe place, away from concentrations of population. And steps should be taken to prevent the further deterioration of the originals - slip-cases should be constructed for unique volumes, and the stacks in which the collection is housed should be air-conditioned.

To recapitulate, for almost 50 years, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America has struggled against the ravages of time and climate to protect a collection of books and manuscripts unique in the history of Jewish culture. It has attempted, and continues to attempt to make these collections available to all who could use them with profit. With this in mind, it has embarked on an extensive program of photostating and microfilming, has cooperated fully in inter-library loans, and in opening its facilities to all students and scholars, and has started the costly process required for the preservation and protection of incunabula and of unique books and periodicals. However, this library is truly a part of the cultural heritage of the entire American Jewish community, and, indeed, of the civilized world. In the final analysis, no single institution should bear the cost of preserving this treasure. A reasonable program for the American Jewish community, with regard to this and to other important archives would be:

1. The construction of a building, with climate controlled vaults, located in a mutually satisfactory safe area, remote from the larger cities, in which microfilms of all important collections of Hebraica and Judaica would be housed and catalogued, and from which copies of these microfilms could be circulated to scholars throughout the world.

2. The initiation of a program for preserving the original manuscripts and fragments which, even when microfilms are available, continue to play an indispensable role in scholarly endeavor.

3. The launching of a program of reprinting designed to make the results of the 19th and 20th century European Jewish scholarship available to American scholars.

II. Publication of the Results of Research

Like most other institutions of higher education, the Seminary has had to institute a program of publications in order to make available to the world of scholarship the original research carried on by its faculty. Books of this kind are costly to print, and never attain a large enough distribution to be financially self-supporting. Many of these books, cast in the classical mould, will eventually sell 5,000 or more copies and most of them will in turn stimulate new scholarly endeavor, so that there can be no question but that they fill a real need in the world of Jewish scholarship. But the fact that their sale continues over a period of several decades makes the original investment a somewhat unrealistic one for an institution whose primary purpose is, and should remain, education. Other institutions of higher Jewish learning are faced with this same problem, as are the great American secular colleges and universities. It is an interesting fact, that while individual Jews have been in the forefront of those supporting general research and publication at the university level, the Jewish community has been slow in accepting its responsibility for the publication of specifically Jewish research. In this area, a reasonable program for the American Jewish community would be:

1. Subsidizing of an appropriate press to print such volumes as meet the approval of an editorial board selected to represent the leading Jewish institutions of higher learning.

2. Offering grants-in-aid for research purposes to scholars engaged in the writing of books which require years of preparation. This could be done through a Jewish community foundation, which would thus make it possible for competent men to undertake, to complete, and to publish important original contributions.

III. A Program for Jewish Scholars

Before there can be any question of publication or even of support of basic studies, the community must invest in the people behind the books - in the scholars themselves. The failure of the Jewish community to make this investment of even subsistence grants for scholars, has led many promising young people to abandon the field of higher scholarship for the more immediately lucrative tasks of the pulpit, or to transfer their interest to other fields of scholarship, outside of the Jewish sphere. A minimal community program to maintain the traditional high standards of Jewish scholarship would require:

1. Scholarship funds at a community level, enabling each Jewish community to subsidize the education of local young people at recognized centers of higher Jewish learning. Such an enterprise would help to assure competent teaching at the local level.

2. Additional funds, at a national level, should be made available to enable the best of the community scholarship winners to continue their studies at a graduate level. Only in this way can the tradition of Jewish scholarship be continued in the face of the many pressures which beset able young people today.

3. Finally, as mentioned above, a program of research grants to permit recognized scholars from various academies of higher Jewish learning to pursue their independent studies, and to prepare for publication important contributions to Jewish scholarship.

IV. - A Program for Jewish Scholarship

In addition to the program for Jewish scholars, outlined above, there is a need for a similar program in the field of scholarship proper. Scholarship today has three distinct realms - teaching, writing and research proper. The last named division has achieved full recognition recently in general and scientific fields. It has come into being because of our realization that the complexity of knowledge frequently puts new discoveries out of the reach of a single scholar, no matter how talented, but makes them accessible to a team of scholars, either working in a single discipline, or drawn from a number of inter-related or complementary disciplines. The institute is the current term for this division of scholarship, and the Institute of Advanced Studies, at Princeton University is of course its prime example. Three ventures into this realm of scholarship in the Jewish sphere are presently under the auspices of the Seminary, two of them financed by the late Louis M. Rabinowitz, truly a modern-day Maecenas. Of the latter, one is the Tosefta, being prepared by Professor Saul Lieberman, and the other the American Jewish History Center, discussed in a separate memorandum. The third research project in which the Seminary is interested centers in Israel, in the efforts of Rabbi Yehoshua Haim Kossofsky and his disciples to produce a concordance to the Talmud.

Virtually every member of the Seminary faculty is engaged in basic research. This research results in important publications, provided that the individual scholar has sufficient time free from teaching commitments to devote to his studies. Examples of work currently in progress include: the philosophical background of studies in modern Jewish thought by Professor Mordecai M. Kaplan; the remaining volumes (three of the projected 36 have so far been published) of Professor Saul Lieberman's monumental work on the Tosefta; a series of commentaries on various books of the Bible by Professor H.L. Ginsberg; and a definitive study of Kalir, the foremost payetan, by Professor Shalom Spiegel. Completion of these and other works is perhaps the most important task of Jewish scholarship today. It requires, beyond the program of grants and fellowships discussed elsewhere, the encouragement of teams of scholars in each research area, or combination of research areas. The program of the American Jewish community in this area should include:

1. A series of continuing research institutes - in such areas as Bible, Talmud, theology, etc. - which would give fresh stimulus to scholars in these fields, and would focus national attention upon the role of Judaism in the areas of biblical interpretation and exegesis, ethics, etc.

To sum up, the Seminary feels that there are areas of emergency need in the cultural picture of the American Jewish community. To meet these emergencies before it is too late, this institution is ready to add its efforts in these areas to those of related institutions, and to work with the total Jewish community to solve the most urgent problems in the areas of preserving our archives, publishing scholarly works, establishing grants-in-aid to students to pursue their research, and training new scholars.

Unless the American Jewish community takes immediate steps to preserve its cultural heritage, and to create a new generation of scholars and teachers, the people of the book will become Jewishly illiterate; the books which they have produced in earlier generations will become increasingly rare, and without trained scholars to carry on the tradition, the richest Jewish community in history will cease to be authentically Jewish.

THE MENORAH ASSOCIATION

The organization that subsequently developed into The Menorah Association, Inc. was first established at Harvard in 1906 "for the study and advancement of Jewish culture and ideals". This organization, established with Faculty approval and support, believed that Jewish history, literature and philosophy as part of the humanities should form an integral part of general university studies and interests. In 1913 the Intercollegiate Menorah Association was established with societies at 13 universities, and the growth continued until its high mark in the twenties when there were Menorah Societies on more than 70 campuses. The program involved lectures, forums, study circles, essay competitions, annual dinners and other functions.

In 1914 the decision was made to establish a journal and the following year The Menorah Journal was published (originally as a bi-monthly) and served not only as the organ of the Association itself, but also as a vehicle for scholarship, creative literary expression, and discussion of Jewish problems.

The Association lost ground during the depression and the aspect of its work concerned with college youth has in effect ceased although a few societies remain under different names. The Journal has however appeared since its founding, at times as a monthly and now on a once-a-year basis, but the general purposes of the publication have not changed. Articles must be historical or literary, and subject matter centers around the place of Judaism in the modern world. It conceives of itself as "within the general orbit of humanism as a whole", and its position is that Jewish life should not be separated from other humanistic values but should be an enriching part of the main stream of Western culture. Jewish life and thought and its interrelationships with general life and thought have been felt by its founder and only editor to be a basic part of this responsibility throughout its history.

An impressive list of creative literary and scholarly figures introduced by the Journal were instanced as examples of the contributions it has made to both Jewish and general culture. It was strongly emphasized that the Journal had on principle throughout its history remained independent of ties with any other organization or specific movement in Jewish life. The resultant freedom to comment objectively on all aspects of the Jewish scene was claimed as being a crucial element of the history of The Menorah Association. In this connection it was claimed that the magazine is not and never has been tied to any anti-Zionist, Zionist or any other organization and retains a commitment only "to positive Jewish living, inquiring, and thinking."

As far as its present operations are concerned, unsolicited material is almost never utilized since it is rarely of sufficiently high

literary standards. Almost all articles are commissioned and are paid for at rates varying from 2¢ to 5¢ a word. The aim was described as "coming to grips more closely and candidly with the basic issues of Jewish life and though." Circulation has in recent years dropped markedly as has support from Welfare Funds, and the editor ascribes this development to the Journal's independent point of view toward Zionism, Israel and other aspects and problems in Jewish life. Present circulation is just over 1,000 copies per issue.

The outstanding hope for the future is a Menorah Collegium, "to re-examine the whole Jewish heritage and to present it fresh in the light of modern research and the general scientific temper of our time . . . Emphasis is to be put upon the interrelations of Judaism with the general intellectual and spiritual currents of important periods of human history, especially our own." To achieve this objective, six Jewish scholars have agreed to serve as members of the Collegium, and it is intended to co-opt ten additional scholars from various Jewish and non-Jewish fields of study as an auxiliary body. The groups aimed at are intelligent Jewish adults, college students, and interested Gentiles.

The proposed budget for the Collegium is $95,000 annually. At the present time consultations are continuing with scholars (on a fee basis) in an attempt to talk through the various problems, difficulties and opportunities involved in carrying out the Collegium program.

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

The services of the National Jewish Welfare Board described in this report were initially and basically created to serve the needs of Jewish Community Centers. It was, however, stressed that they are available to and in fact are extensively used by the American Jewish community in general and their contribution to cultural life nationally is not limited to the activities of the Centers.

1. JEWISH CENTER LECTURE BUREAU

The extensive services of the Lecture Bureau which has for years provided speakers, artists, etc. to the Jewish community nationally, is viewed as being more than merely a booking agency or a major convenience as between the artist and audience. It conceives of itself primarily as a programming agency that is interested in creating new Jewish cultural resources, rather than limiting itself to being the middle man in the booking process. A number of examples were cited of the constant interest of the Bureau in creating program resources. Among these examples are the frequent presentation of unknown artists from Israel, the introduction of the Warsaw Yiddish Theater to the American Jewish community, the construction of programs in celebration of specific events such as the Tercentenary and Israel's Tenth Anniversary program, and the creation of particular programs designed for individual speakers and artists on subjects of Jewish interest not being covered by any speaker on his own initiative. The agency is conscious of the needs both of the communities and of the artists and the feeling was strongly expressed that the audience and opportunity provided by the encouragement of the Bureau have made it possible for artists to remain in their field and to continue to be creative.

In addition to these activities, the Bureau also conducts the Advisory Program Service which helps local communities in establishing study groups and lecture series, thus bringing knowledge of Jewish life and thought and transmitting aspects of the cultural heritage. In addition, consultation service is also extended to the artists with a view toward helping them to understand more clearly their prospective audiences and arranging their offerings with the needs of the national community in mind.

Particular emphasis was placed on the contribution to smaller and more isolated communities -- distant from the eastern seaboard -- where "package" cultural programs and guidance form major cultural aids.

For a period of some years a rather extensive audio visual department was maintained which directly conducted a film service, exhibits of Jewish ceremonial and art objects, and the like. In view of severe budgetary restrictions this service has been curtailed and in its place a general consultations service has been established whereby the JWB advises as to available resources and services.

2. JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL

The Jewish Book Council was organized 15 years ago and has been almost from the beginning a JWB responsibility although it has representation from almost all national Jewish organizations in this field. It aims at stimulating interest in and the reading of Jewish books, the encouragement of Jewish literary creativity and the raising of Jewish literary standards in general.

It has for 14 years sponsored Jewish Book Month which has become an accepted part of the calendar both in the Jewish world and in the non-Jewish world, with almost universal observance by local communities as well as growing interest abroad. The observance of this event has become so extensive that the JWB no longer attempts to keep records as to local observances; it can be safely assumed that almost every Jewish community sponsors in various ways and through various institutions its own clebration of this annual event.

Included in this activity is the Jewish Book Annual, which is a listing unduplicated elsewhere of books of interest during the past year in all phases of Jewish life together with articles on trends and qualitative developments affecting Jewish literature. A program manual and program materials are prepared in connection with Jewish Book Month. The observance is climaxed with an annual meeting whose proceedings constitute a contribution to the field; in addition, it serves as the occasion for the awarding of various literary prizes (typically from $100 to $150 in the categories of poetry, fiction, children's books and juvenile literature of Jewish interest. Citations are also awarded at this time to Jewish libraries that have met standards established by the Book Council.

The Jewish Book Council is not limited to the annual observance but sponsors projects throughout the year. Included in this activity are conferences on Jewish writing, symposia on Jewish periodicals and discussion of books for Jewish children, the writing of American Jewish history and similar books. The publication In Jewish Book Land serves to highlight developments in the field of literary expression throughout the year. Usually some literary figure is singled out for particular stress whenever a date or anniversary makes it appropriate.

3. JEWISH MUSIC COUNCIL

In a similar fashion and with similar Jewish objectives, the JWB has for a number of years sponsored both an annual Jewish music festival and a year round on-going program related to Jewish music. The sponsoring structure is similar to that of the Jewish Book Council, being composed of representatives of all organizations related to this field. Here too the emphasis is placed on Jewish creativity; in addition to its own program materials the activity of the Jewish Music Council has resulted in the last three years in the commissioning of 45 original Jewish musical works through the contributions of local communities or organizations. The publication Jewish Music Notes is a central resource in this field, as is the preparation of musical bibliographies of various kinds.

As in the case of Jewish Book Month, the Jewish music festival has attracted attention beyond the Jewish community and a considerable amount of radio and television time and press coverage has been secured either through the direct efforts of the JWB or occasionally through the independent interests of the various media. This whole field is presently being evaluated and the aim is constantly to strive for higher standards in the observance of Jewish music and the establishment of criteria that will enable local celebrations and Jewish music in general to be conducted on the highest possible level.

4. PROGRAMMING IN THE ARTS

In addition to the activities already outlined, some proportion of staff time is devoted to guidance of local community specialists in the field of Jewish arts in general. Institutes and workshops have been held on the use of the arts in Jewish Community Center programming and other organizations beyond the Centers have also been involved in this activity. Art resources for older adults and holiday programs involving the arts have also been special concerns of this department.

It was stressed at some length, however, that this activity has been severely limited by lack of funds and it has been impossible to establish a Jewish Arts Council similar to those created in the fields of literature and music. Even within those two fields, there has been a sharp curtailment of staff time for budgetary reasons and all programs in this field are proceeding under the difficulties imposed by staff members who must be responsible for a number of departments, rather than concentrating on individual fields.

5. PUBLICATIONS

JWB produces a constant stream of program aids of all kinds designed in the first instance to aid Jewish Community Centers, but also used as basic resources by synagogues and many other Jewish institutions. A catalogue is issued which lists these various publications by field; the most recent issue lists 203 separate items designed for enrichment of program.

In a separate category are the armed service publications aimed at meeting the religious needs of Jewish men and women in the armed forces.

6. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY CENTERS PLANNING

The JWB has been called upon with some frequency to conduct community studies, mostly in connection with proposed building programs of local community centers. Although primarily designed for this purpose, the data that have been collected involve analyses of population movements, of family size, and other related materials of prime demographic significance, and have also been concerned with how most effectively to strengthen community cultural services. This raw material for demographic study has never been analyzed in any comprehensive fashion although it probably constitutes a valuable basic set of records reflecting much of importance in Jewish community life in recent years.

7. UNMET NEEDS

The basic need felt by the JWB in the cultural field is to gain sufficient funds to make possible the re-establishment or the full re-activation of the various cultural activities which have from time to time been undertaken. Mention has already been made of the severe limitation in the field of Jewish books and Jewish music, although these activities continue. Some projects have been totally suspended, such as the annual observance of Jewish History Month which at one time (in the early 50's) was a function of the JWB, which for some years undertook responsibility for the work of the American Jewish Historical Society.

Mention has also been made of the value of analyzing the wealth of raw material collected in connection with surveys of various communities.

The JWB feels strongly that the American Jewish community cannot very much longer rely on the cultural creativity of Israel or the inheritance from European Jewish community life. It feels that with additional funds it would be in a position to help stimulate further creativity on the American scene.

A considerable challenge is felt in the problem of coordinating the various arts which up to this time have tended to remain disparate. In general, it is hoped that American Jewish life is ready for a surge of artistic creativity and that the consuming public has reached the point where it will utilize quality Jewish artistic expression. If properly financed, the JWB feels that it is prepared through its staff and resources to undertake its appropriate share of responsibility in these directions.

THEODOR HERZL FOUNDATION:
1. Theodor Herzl Institute

The Jewish Agency and the American Zionist Council established the Theodor Herzl Foundation in 1954 "as a center for Zionist Adult Education . . . . its program is geared to a review of contemporary problems on the Jewish scene here and abroad, to the study of modern Israel, and to Jewish social research, with particular consideration to the history and impact of Zionism."

The Foundation consists of three divisions: the Herzl Institute, the Herzl Press, and Midstream, and although there is a good deal of mutual consultation among these departments, all three are autonomous and their directors are responsible to Dr. Emanuel Neumann, member of the Jewish Agency's Executive, and chairman of the Board of Theodor Herzl Foundation, who is also the responsible head of the Herzl Institute. There is an Advisory Committee for the Institute, of five or six members, but it is essentially an informal instrument, and there is no Board of Trustees or any other governing body to which the Institute is accountable other than the Foundation itself.

The Institute emphasizes categorically that nothing in Jewish life is alien to its interests, and although it has a basic commitment to Israel which is reflected in its program, it will - and in fact does - concern itself in its program and activities with the totality of Jewish life. This point of view has recently been expressed as follows:

> "The Dynamics of Zionism and Israel are such as to give adult Jewish education an entirely new perspective . . . This re-orientation - its aid and claim is the totality of the Jewish experience, past and present. . . . This includes actually everything that goes into our heritage, and that stakes out, the scope of adult Jewish education: Bible, and Talmud, and Law and Midrash, and medieval literature, and ritual, religious custom, and secular folkways, and that great Zion-drenched memory, that is Jewish history. . . . Nothing Jewish is alien to Zionist education, and nothing Zionist must be alien to adult Jewish education. . . . . We propose the evaluation of Jewish history, of men, and events, and values, be undertaken from a Zionist point of view, from the vantage point of the Zion motive, operative in the Jewish people and in their motivations for Zion."

Although the Foundation was established in 1954, for a variety of reasons its real functioning did not begin until 1956. There can be no doubt that it has developed a comprehensive, resourceful, and imaginative program which makes it a center not only of Zionist, but of adult Jewish education. It operates at least five days a week, and frequently schedules programs at least five days a week, and frequently schedules programs for the weekends as well. Structurally its program has developed a form built around the week. Monday is primarily devoted

to Israel, and the offerings on that night have included such programs as a series on life in the Negev, another on the Arabs of Israel, on the Sabras, and other comparable courses on everyday life in Israel. Tuesday is reserved for major lecture series, typical subjects being devoted to the position of Russian Jewry, "Chassidism Revisited", etc. Wednesday is forum night, usually concerned with discussions or debates of somewhat controversial topics such as the nature of Jewish religious revival, the significance of human rights to Jewish life, the nature of minority status, etc. Thursdays have been primarily devoted to Jewish life in Europe, with one series being concerned with great Jewish communities of the past and various aspects of Jewish life in Europe today.

These specific programs are all primarily illustrative of basic program material which aims at a balance among all subjects of interest on the Jewish world scene.

Special programs are of considerable importance, with the Jewish holidays forming an essential part of this aspect of the program. In all cases, a somewhat "off beat" emphasis is sought for; a Yemenite Chanuka was presented, for example, with actual Yemenites as participants and every attempt to capture the real spirit of this type of celebration. Another similar event was a "kibbutz seder" in which the actual sedarim of various kibbutzim in Israel were drawn upon to create a typical service.

Special events and series are constantly arranged, such as "From the Four Corners", which summarizes Jewish life in various outposts of the world, Jewish Historama, etc.

Up to this time the offerings of the Institute have been free, although there is discussion on the possibility of regular courses involving payment of fees. What little experimentation has gone into this type of procedure has not as yet been particularly successful.

The public secured for these varying presentations have numbered a total of 23,000 during the course of the past year. There is, of course, some duplication of individuals in this number, which reflects total attendance for all programs, not only the evening offerings, which have been primarily outlined in this memorandum.

An examination of the schedule for the day indicates that the Institute runs throughout the day and the evening, with various lectures, debates, Hebrew courses, exhibitions, and other events taking place all through the day and week.

After examination of the carefully kept figures on daily attendance at each of the events, question was raised as to the nature of the Institute constituency. Some attempt has been made by the Institute to study this problem, primarily through spot-checks at various events. It would appear that the Institute program interests primarily the non-affiliated. There is no indication that the audience is primarily connected with formal Zionist organizations, or with labor, or other institutions in Jewish life. Although stressing the considerable effect that particular programs will have on attracting differing types of audiences, it was nevertheless felt

that the majority was "rank and file Jews" without strong present organizational ties. There seems also to be evidence that the group is a somewhat older (above 40) one, although again, particular programs will markedly modify this generalization. A mailing list of some 5,000 is maintained to publicize the events, and occasionally the New York Times or comparable organs, either through advertising or more frequently as part of their roundup of cultural events, will highlight one or another of the offerings.

Question was raised as to whether these services were not primarily or overwhelmingly for New York consumption, and whether the Institute was not therefore in practice a local, rather than a national institution. In answer, it was stated that the organization hopes to develop comparable Herzl Institutes in all parts of the country, and is presently negotiating in Boston and in Chicago to set up patterns of activity there. Perhaps more significant, at the present time, is an increasing consultation service involving communities and agencies throughout the country. At times these requests are on the least sophisticated level, where general aid is asked in helping to construct program. More frequently, the requests are more pointed and involve more specific needs. Not unusually, help is asked in repeating, in whole or in part, a program originally presented at the Institute. A good deal of emphasis was placed on the growing importance of this service, and the statement was made that hardly a day passed without requests of this type.

Conferences on various subjects of Jewish concern have also been a major interest of the Institute. These are sometimes held in cooperation with other Jewish groups - as was the case of a conference on Jewish writing, held in cooperation with the Book Council of the Jewish Welfare Board, and sometimes is a unique Institute function, as in the case of a recent conference on Israel-American relations. Numerous other examples were given of conferences involving wide audiences or assembling of authorities in a given field, and a number of other Jewish organizations were cited as occasionally sharing in these undertakings. These include a conference on the early history of Zionism - together with the American Jewish Historical Society; a conference on the impact of Israel on America - together with a Conference on Jewish Social Studies; and it should also be added that occasionally the Institute finds other organizations not prepared, for a variety of reasons, to co-sponsor events, and it therefore proceeds on its own. Examples were given of this situation.

In general, the position of the Institute is that it resigns no aspect of concern with Jewish life, here or abroad, and may step into any cultural vacuum left by other organizations if that vacuum is within the orbit of the Institute's primary concerns. At the same time it was stressed that there is a strong need for a clearing house on the national scene in this area, and that national organizations with comparable interests are unaware of what others are doing. American-Jewish scholarship also suffers from a lack of clear understanding of what is happening and what is planned on the American-Jewish cultural scene.

Considerable stress was placed on the importance of the Research Department, which has specialized thus far in American-Israeli relationships. This aspect of Institute functioning is described in the following section.

Exhibits are also thought of as an important aspect of Institute functioning. An exhibit hall is maintained, with changes primarily on a monthly basis. Among the important and typical exhibits have been displays of the work of Israeli artists, particularly those relatively unknown, who are seeking an audience, an exhibit of sixty years of Zionist history in America, a maritime exhibit on the theme of "Israel Returns to the Sea", an exhibit on Israeli humor, "Israel Chuckles", etc. Considerable importance is placed on arranging travelling exhibits and some of those outlined have appeared at Hillel Foundations, Jewish Centers, and other comparable institutions.

The interviewer was deeply impressed with the vigor and imagination of the Institute program. At the same time, some basic questions arose. One is the nature of the Institute constituency, which thus far has been overwhelmingly limited to a New York audience. Also significant is the fact that a considerable sum of money has been put at the disposal of the organization, in an indirect fashion (as part of the allocation to the Jewish Agency). There can be no doubt that the money has not only been constructively spent, but indeed it demonstrates how much can be achieved under resourceful direction, when a fairly adequate subvention is provided for cultural needs. At the same time, there can be no doubt that communities throughout the country, which have been anything but generous to the cultural field, are not really aware of this major subvention.

MIDSTREAM - A Publication of the Herzl Foundation

The general purpose of Midstream, as defined at its founding and repeated in nearly every number, remains valid. The statement of purpose reads:

> "In sponsoring Midstream, a Zionist publication, we are committed, above all, to free inquiry. We conceive Zionism as, in essence, a questioning of the Jewish status quo, and as a steady confrontation of the problems of Jewish existence. It is our hope that Midstream will offer critical interpretation of the past, a searching examination of the present, and afford a medium for considered and independent opinion and for creative cultural expression."

Considerable stress was placed on the complexity of implementing this mandate in the practical affairs of the quarterly. The major foci of interest of the magazine revolve around Israel and the implications of the fate of the destroyed Jewish communities of Europe. However, these primary interests are felt to be so integrally related to nearly every phase of Jewish life in America that almost any development on the American Jewish cultural scene is claimed to be of interest to Midstream and related to the essential purposes of the publication.

By way of illustration; it was pointed out that the situation of the Jewish community in the South today, despite substantial differences, is nevertheless psychologically comparable in some ways to the situation that existed for centuries in many parts of Europe. In both cases the essential problem is one of being caught between the millstones of conflicting majority and minority aspirations.

The interests of the magazine, however, extend beyond this type of situation. A significant proportion of the quarterly is devoted to fiction and poetry, not always of an obvious Jewish nature. Although by far the greater part of the magazine is devoted to specifically Jewish articles, pieces of merit are sometimes printed where it is felt the human situation being described "echoes" or is emotionally related to problems facing Jews in America.

In pursuance of this point an attempt was made to distinguish between the fields of interest of Commentary and Midstream. Both are "class" magazines and both address themselves in broad measure to the totality of Jewish problems; material appears in one that could appear in the other with equal appropriateness. Nevertheless, Midstream has a specific commitment to Jewish historic events described in its statement of purpose and in addition believes that its view of the nature of Jewish life contrasts markedly with that of the American Jewish Committee. It was claimed that this difference in viewpoint reflects itself in the pages of the two magazines and that this distinction, although sometimes subtle, nevertheless is real and forms an important aspect of editorial judgment. It was further stated that although Midstream is in no sense a house organ and carefully avoids any kind of organizational propaganda, no matter how worthy, it nevertheless views the political, sociological, and cultural scene in America and abroad in a manner that reflects its distinctive and fundamental purposes.

CIRCULATION; STAFF; FINANCING

The quarterly, in existence less than four years, has approximately 4500 subscribers in all states of the Union and in a significant number of countries abroad. Its total "run" is 7000 copies per issue, which includes sales on newsstands and various complimentary copies. No survey has as yet been undertaken of its readership, but it is known that approximately 500 rabbis and about 700 libraries are among the subscribers. An attempt will shortly be made to analyze the subscribers in more detailed fashion.

The overwhelming majority of articles appearing in the publication are commissioned; the estimate was made that more than 90% of the material is secured in this fashion. Payment is at the rate of 3¢ to 5¢ a word, depending in general on the type of material submitted. Although a substantial number of manuscripts is constantly submitted, it has been found that very little of this unsolicited material is usable.

Planning the magazine content is the responsibility of the editor although there is also an editorial board of five, some of whom reside out of New York.

Inquiry was made as to the amount of subsidy by the Jewish Agency but no figures were available.

In general, the view was expressed that there seems to exist on the American scene a profoundly disturbing cultural poverty. Much of the unsolicited material submitted is standardized and "canned." It was felt that the far smaller community of England, for example, has a more vital Jewish intellectual elite and that even basic problems on the American scene, beyond the philanthropic or "action" level, rarely result in serious and vigorous debate and exchange of views. It was noted that all publications with high literary standards in the United States face similar problems of securing vital and fresh material. The Jewish magazine faces an additional difficulty since so considerable a proportion of younger Jewish intellectuals tend to shy away from Jewish magazines and seek the broader audience of non-Jewish periodicals.

It was nevertheless felt that the long range potential is still significant and that the sheer number and strength of the American Jewish community, if properly approached, should finally lead to a substantial readership for high level magazines and other cultural products and hopefully, an increasing cultural output and standards.

RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF THE HERZL INSTITUTE

The Research Department of the Herzl Institute is staffed by a Director, a Research Associate, a Research Assistant and a Secretary. One basic aspect of its work is the securing and processing of records and archives primarily dealing with the history of Zionism in this country. The scope, however, is broadly interpreted and although Zionism remains the central interest of the work, no vital aspect of Jewish living is excluded from its interest. The realities however have been that the vast majority of the work thus far has been concerned with projects closely related to the development of Zionism in the United States. The Research Associate, for example, has been devoting a major share of time to the collection and arrangement of source materials that will be used in connection with a detailed history of American Zionism. The resources being collected will form a permanent collection available to all scholars. Similarly, another staff member has been primarily concerned with the microfilming and processing of archival material associated with two important figures in Zionist history - Harry Friedenwald and Jacob de Haas. This work is being carried out in conjunction with the Zionist Archives and Library. The materials are in general actively solicited and it is hoped over the years to build up a substantial body of basic source material, although it was stressed that the Institute is not primarily interested in original documents. It operates primarily through microfilming the original sources rather than attempting to retain them in their original form.

CONFERENCES

From time to time the Research Department, often together with other arms of the Institute, arranges conferences of scholars. The most recent

conference was concerned with guidance in Jewish social research; its primary objectives were to call to the attention of graduate students the possibility of Ph.D. subjects both on Israel or other fields of Jewish interest and to provide guidance in research methods. Additional conferences on this same subject are planned.

As part of this same general interest, the Research Department, through extensive use of a questionnaire, published in 1958 its booklet "Current Jewish Social Research" which includes a complete listing of all graduate theses from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, plus a further extensive review of doctoral theses of other institutions in recent years. Further volumes are planned with the next one emphasizing theses from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Listing is by subject matter.

Two conferences have also been held on the history of American Zionism; the proceedings have been published. In principle, all fields of Jewish social research are of interest to the department, although it is as yet in its early history and a great deal has not been attempted in the generalized field of Jewish social research.

THE HERZL PRESS

The Director of the Research Department also serves as editor of the Herzl Foundation, but has now been established as an independent and separate organization. It has published five books, including the following titles: "The American Jew", "The New Zionism", "Utopians at Bay", "Early History of Zionism in America", and "Latin America and the Palestine Problem". Several other books were subsidized, but appeared under the imprint of other publishing houses. This arrangement, however, will not be continued in the future and it is expected that future publications will appear under the imprint of the Herzl Press itself. Two additional books have already appeared since the Herzl Press was established in its own name- "The Herzl Year Book" and James Farrell's book on Palestine, "It Has Come to Pass". The Herzl Press also undertakes responsibility for a pamphlet series on subjects of interest to it.

A series of eight books are planned for the immediate future, most of them concerned with various phases of Zionist history and thought, and with Israeli problems.

There have been occasions on which authors have submitted manuscripts to the editor of Herzl Press which have been found to be usable, but for the most part the books are planned and commissioned by the Herzl Press itself. As an indication of the volume of unsolicited material that is submitted, however, it was stated that there were 17 rejections of material - for a variety of reasons - during the period of the past six months.

A typical volume is published in a "run" of 2,000 to 4,000. Sales vary considerably depending on the type of volume that is published. In general, books that sell 2,000 or more copies tend to pay for themselves, but as is true in all phases of the publishing business, there are volumes with lower sales that incur a deficit.

ADDENDA :

Organization

Within the framework of a major reorganization of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, the Herzl Foundation comprising of the Institute, Herzl Press, and Midstream, has been transferred, as of April 1, 1960, to the American Zionist Council.

Attendance

During the past season a total of 31,588 persons passed "through the turnstiles" of the Herzl Institute.

The Program Preview was mailed out weekly to 8,200 people located in Metropolitan New York, various cities of the United States, and to a number of places abroad including Jewish communities in South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia.

Herzl Centennial Obervance

Upon the occasion of the Herzl Centennial a special Program Planning Guidance Kit was published by the Herzl Institute and distributed nationally and internationally. The international distribution (to Zionist territorial federations) was arranged through the office of the World Zionist Organization in Jerusalem.

Within the framework of its own program the Herzl Institute arranged for major events this past May. In addition, an extramural event was presented at Columbia University in cooperation with the University's Center for Jewish and Israel Studies.

Hebrew Program

Under the direction of Dr. Mordecai Kanrat, an intensive Hebrew program based on the Ulpan Method, was conducted by the Institute mornings and evenings. The total registration for these courses was 220.

Audio-Visual Program

During the past season, the following exhibits were presented by the Institute:

Bialik Exhibit
Youth Aliyah Comes of Age
Otto Ellenbogen, Tel Aviv
Joel Rohr, Israel

For the Herzl Centennial a special travel exhibit was made available to communities throughout the country.

Conferences

During the report period two conferences were held by the Institute:

1) "Art in Israel"

2) "Intermarriage and Jewish Life"
(The publication of proceedings is in the process of preparation.)

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

Yeshiva University operates three high schools, two undergraduate colleges, two undergraduate Teacher's institutes and ten graduate and professional schools. However, of particular interest to this study is the work of the Bernard Revel Graduate School (and the Harry Fischel School for higher Jewish studies, which operates only during the summer) and to a lesser extent the School of Social Work.

The Bernard Revel Graduate School was established in 1945 with the objective of providing opportunity for professional advancement of scholars in the various fields of Jewish studies and cognate learning, and in the training of college graduates for positions as teachers in these fields. Degrees awarded include the Master's, Doctor of Hebrew Literature and Doctor of Philosophy, awarded for the first time last year. There are four major fields of study - the Bible, Jewish history and literature, rabbinic and Talmudic studies and Semitic languages and literature.

The focus of much of the program was originally concerned with semitics, but there has been an increasing concentration in recent years on American Jewish history. Three full professors now serve on the faculty who have specialized in American Jewish history and sociology and an increasing amount of research work has been concerned with the American scene. An indication of this tendency are such studies as the history of the Jews in Port Chester (done in cooperation with the American Jewish Historical Society) and of the Jewish community of Sioux City. There has also been a demographic study of Brownsville, a study of the American Jewish responsa, a history of Yeshiva University and of various Jewish figures on the American scene.

These studies have for the most part not appeared in book form because of the lack of funds for publication. There is a similar lack of funds for research projects and as a result almost all of the contributions made by Yeshiva University in this field have resulted either from graduate theses or from the independent scholarly achievements of faculty members. It has not been possible to commission research projects.

A number of projects were described in some detail that the University would like to undertake either through the Bernard Revel School or through the newly established School of Social Work if funds were available. These include studies of the problems of the Jewish aging and of Jewish juvenile delinquency. It was pointed out that the low rate of Jewish juvenile delinquency seems not to be completely explained on a socio economic basis, but evidently involves a cultural factor as

well that is not yet clearly understood. It is thought that a scientific study of this question would not only have usefulness for the Jewish community but would have profound implications for social science in general.

In connection with these and many similar projects - as well as with the aim of training future staff members the hope was expressed that it would be possible to create a team of promising young scholars - perhaps ten in number - drawn from the fields of Rabbinics, Bible, Jewish history, sociology and philosophy, to create a corps of inter-related disciplines that would enrich the field of Jewish scholarship. At the present time literally no funds are available for fellowships and the problem of training future scholars was given top priority if the continuity of Jewish life is to be preserved.

It was stressed that Yeshiva University requires its undergraduate students to pursue some type of Jewish study throughout their four college years and as a result - as well as because of the commitments and background of the student body - the students are felt to be potentially unusually equipped for Jewish scholarly pursuits. However, because of the far greater prestige and rewards of general scholarship and fields unrelated to scholarship at all there was an increasing and alarming tendency for promising talent to drift away from careers in Jewish scholarship and study. It was pointed out in connection with the tendency to establish Chairs of Jewish studies at various Universities that it is becoming easier to secure the means for establishing Chairs than to find men to fill the posts when they are established. Another result of the difficult financial position has been that studies have been largely descriptive rather than interpretive since the latter type of study requires far more money. Some interest was expressed in this latter connection in the possible establishment of a cultural foundation nationally that might provide some of the necessary resources.

Examples were offered of some of the scholarly work of the faculty, including a work on the social history of Eastern European Jewry, and it was indicated that a fuller list of faculty scholarly work, plus a list of representative theses would be submitted at a later time.

Further unmet needs that Yeshiva University would like to meet include the establishment of an intensified program of Jewish studies, an extensive research of the demographic material available at the United Nations Library and the creation of a Chair in Jewish library technique.

The School of Social Work is now in its second year of operation and has 35 students, with the ultimate aim of having a student body of approximately 50. It hopes to develop a continuing and hopefully

growing interest in research that would be concerned with the Jewish community utilizing the tools and insights of the social science. Students in the school are encouraged to choose Jewish subjects for fulfilling the research requirement.

Among the various libraries operated by the University, most important for this study is the Gottesman Library which contains over 100,000 volumes. Its fields of concentration are Rabbinics and Jewish philosophy and ethics, but it contains extensive resources in other fields, as indicated by the possession of approximately 1,000 original manuscripts from the seventeenth and eighteenth century Jewish history. There is a deep interest in acquiring further archival material and the major technique to accomplish this purpose is a study of material available for purchase throughout the world. Four staff members service the library, but it was stressed that a desperate personnel situation is emerging not only at the Gottesman Library, but at all Jewish libraries. What is required are people professionally trained in library techniques who also have the extensive Jewish background that enables them to deal with the bewildering problems of language and classification in so complex a field as Jewish history and thought. It has been necessary to devise a classification system since all presently existing systems assign Judaica to a single category whereas Jewish life has involved almost the totality of the experiences of the Western world. It was emphasized that in this field, as well as many fields concerned with Jewish teaching, no full career opportunities have yet been achieved.

Yeshiva University publishes Horeb, a Hebrew journal devoted to original study and research in the fields of Jewish history and literature; Sura, an annual journal in Hebrew concerned with the study and research problems relating to past and present Jewish communities throughout the world; and Talpioth, a Hebrew quarterly dedicated to the exposition and publication of Hebrew law, philosophy, and ethics form their original sources.

It was stated that although Yeshiva University is devoted to the ideals of Judaism and undoubtedly its interests reflect this commitment its approach to the scholarly field - and particularly the social sciences - draws upon the basic tools of the modern social sciences and its research is conducted in an objective and scientific fashion.

YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH

1. HISTORY AND PURPOSE

YIVO was founded in Poland in 1925 by a group of scholars "To strive for maximum scientific objectivity in the field of Jewish scholarship and simultaneously to maintain the closest possible contact with the culture of the Jewish people, draw its inspiration from it, serve its needs and further its development." To achieve these objectives, sections were established in economics and statistics, history, linguistics and literature, psychology and education. Also established was the ASPIRANTUR, a school for training young researchers in the Jewish social sciences, and the PRO-ASPIRANTUR, a prepatory division of the ASPIRANTUR.

The American section of the YIVO was first established in October, 1925, and in 1940, following the European catastrophe, this section assumed full responsiblity for the organization. With the transfer of the Central Office to the United States, the original scope of the work of the Institute was widened to include the American Jewish community and its problems. The Certificate of Incorporation in the State of New York in 1940 describes the purposes at that time as follows:

"1) To promote research in and disseminate knowledge concerning the life of the Jewish people in the past and present and to stimulate interest in the study and the solution of problems arising in the life of the Jewish people.

2) To assist the various Jewish social agencies by making available to them the result of said researches into Jewish life and by special investigations into problems pertinent to their respective work.

3) To assist and guide in training young men and women in research work.

4) To maintain sections for study and research in: language, literature and folklore; Jewish history; economics and statistics; psychology and education; and such other sections as may be deemed appropriate.

5) To maintain a library, archives, museum, exhibition rooms and offices for bibliography, documentation and other facilities in research activities.

6) To create research fellowships.

7) To award prizes for excellence in research work.

8) To publish books, periodicals and pamphlets in Yiddish and in

other languages, such publishing to be done without any profit to the corporation.

9) To stimulate and organize forums and discussions on subjects concerning Jewish life and letters in the past and present."

The original purpose of YIVO has been somewhat modified in recent years to place particular emphasis on American Jewish roots in Eastern and Central Europe. This shift in emphasis to the American scene, with a comparable shift in language from Yiddish to Yiddish and English, has generated ideological conflicts which have not yet been fully resolved. It is evidently clear to the majority, and certainly to the younger members of YIVO, that if the YIVO is to retain its present position, there must be growing accommodation to the American scene.

In addition to the problems of finances which have certainly limited the work of the agency, the leadership is conscious of a personnel problem which makes replacement of key individuals difficult, certainly insofar as Yiddish competence is concerned. The Yiddish speaking leaders are clearly an aging group.

2. SERVICES

a. Conferences

Annual conferences for the presentation of scholarly papers are held in New York with audiences of up to 2,000 laymen in attendance. Local branches also sponsor similar meetings, particularly those in Los Angeles and Chicago.

b. Circles

In place of the original "sections", four Circles are sponsored, on history, Yiddish language, sociology and folklore. YIVO acts as the catalytic agent that brings representative scholars in each of these fields together four or five times a year, and it also undertakes responsibility for the administrative aspects of the meetings. The members themselves, however, take full responsibility for the program. The sociology circle conducts its affairs mostly in English; the other three circles are largely conducted in Yiddish.

c. Essay Contest

For eight years an essay contest with three awards (first prize of $300) has been conducted. No subject is assigned; any material of Jewish interest is acceptable. The papers selected must be of a sufficiently high scholarly level, worthy of publication.

d. Consultation

Extensive assistance has gone to graduates working on dissertations in various Jewish fields, and inquiries by scholars, institutions, individuals, landsmanschaften and community organizations constitute a considerable claim on staff time. An extensive and detailed list of organizations and individuals seeking advice and guidance was submitted, including many non-Jewish organizations and institutes interested in various aspects of Jewish life or history.

e. Microfilming

An extensive call upon YIVO has been the furnishing of photostats and microfilming of documents on its archives. Research institutions, universities, libraries, and landsmanschaften deriving from many European communities have made this request, as well as scholarly and scientific workers throughout the world. Data supporting this claim have been submitted.

Relationships with Israel are particularly worthy of note. Constant interchange of materials takes place with various Israeli institutions, notably in connection with the Jewish Historical Society, the University of Jerusalem and Yad Va Shem, and there is a constant stream of inquiry and cooperation.

f. Publications

Each year YIVO publishes a considerable number of books in the fields of history and folk-lore, linguistics and sociology. 27 volumes of the YIVO BLETER and 12 volumes of the ANNUAL OF JEWISH SOCIAL SCIENCE have been published since 1940. In addition, YIVO published 38 books, 24 pamphlets, and 32 other smaller publications.

3. FUTURE PLANS

A total of 33 projects were submitted in mimeographed form. Each of these research projects has a detailed analysis of the subject matter involved, the expense (running from $1600 to over $20,000), the size of the planned publications, the present status of the work, and the author or authors that have agreed to undertake responsiblity if financing can be found. The proposed projects cover both American and European Jewish life and have been thoroughly prepared for actual launching as soon as funds are available. No agency seems better prepared to outline specifically how it would utilize additional funds. It was further suggested that a reliable study of patterns of Jewish mobility is needed, as well as a responsible and authoritative study of Jewish family life.

Great stress was placed on the need for placing the extensive archival material on a sounder footing. Each of the fundamental archival functions- gathering, storage, and servicing of materials presents major challenges. Nowhere in Jewish life, it was claimed, has any sounder procedure been established to ensure that the archives of local communities and local and national organizations are preserved. The importance of actively gathering material was graphically illustrated when the archives of a leading national organization came within an inch of being destroyed before they were acquired by YIVO, although they contain vital material. YIVO, as well as most institutions in the field, do not have adequate storage space and it becomes difficult even impossible at times to accept important material.

The final dream of the agency is the establishment of a school for social research, but it is recognized that there are great difficulties in the way in view of the present YIVO budget, among other considerations.

The ASPIRANTUR was conducted from 1944 to 1949 on a three hour a week seminar basis. In addition, there was an attempt to establish an under-graduate school and a syllabus was worked out on the history and development of Jewish thought and another on the history of Jewish institutions. Fiscal considerations led to the abandonment of these projects.

4. STAFF

The original report, in addition to listing staff members, also gave salary in each instance to emphasize the low level of remuneration which is unfair to the present workers and which makes it so difficult to obtain additional personnel. To maintain consistency in this report, the salaries have been eliminated. The members of the staff of the YIVO are the following:

a. Executive Secretary
b. Editor of Publications
c. Head Librarian
d. Assistant Librarian
e. Assistant librarian
f. Chief Archivist
g. Assistant to the chief archivist

In addition, there is a proofreader, two part-time fund raisers and the usual complement of secretarial and maintenance help.

5. LAY PARTICIPATION

Present YIVO membership is approximately 7,000 which includes membership in eight foreign countries. In addition to the major work carried

on in New York, there are "committees" in seven cities in the United States and Canada and groups of friends in all major Jewish communities in the United States.

The Board of Directors consists of 133 members; 68 of them are from New York and 65 represent a number of states and provinces of the United States and Canada, respectively. There is no limit on the term of membership on the Board of Directors, and new directors are added when a present director nominates a new person and his nomination is approved unanimously. The actual working group is an Executive Committee of 15 members which meets regularly and conducts the affairs of the organization. There is also a Commission on Research which passes on the projects that are submitted and is an autonomous body in determining the research activities of YIVO.

6. PHYSICAL FACILITIES

YIVO occupies its own quarters- the former Vanderbilt Mansion on Fifth Avenue and 86th Street. Although the quarters are for most purposes adequate and attractive, more storage space may have to be found for the archives- possibly in another building. Some negotiations are presently being carried on along these lines.

7. FINANCES

Considerable help has been forthcoming from the Conference on Material Claims Against Germany in reference to many projects in recent years. Not counting this aid, the income of the agency since 1951 has varied between $118,000 and $133,000, and the expenses have during the same period ranged between $120,000 and $135,000, with the exception of one year when the expenses were $151,000. The agency operated throughout this period with annual deficits.

8. LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Approximately 200 people utilize the YIVO Library and Archives yearly for research and educational purposes. The YIVO Library contains over 180,000 books, duplicates excluded. 38,000 volumes are from the original Vilna Library which was salvaged after the War and restored to YIVO several years ago. Most of the acquisitions were obtained without any large expenditures, being donations or paid for by other sources. The Library receives regularly 450 periodicals of Jewish content in various languages.

There is a spacious reading room, equipped with microfilm reader (another microfilm reader is installed in the Archives) and catalogues. One section houses the annual collection of the world Jewish press.

In 1957 the YIVO initiated a permanent exhibition room, made possible by a grant from the Atran Foundation. The first exhibit, THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE - HISTORY AND RESEARCH was formally opened to the public in the spring of 1958 with an accompanying series of lectures. The second exhibit, Dus Shtetl, was opened and a third-VILNA: A JEWISH COMMUNITY IN TIMES OF GLORY AND IN TIME OF DESTRUCTION has been open for the past few months. Archival material of all kinds is regularly supplied to communities and organizations for local exhibits.

The archives are housed in the large basement and sub-basement of the building. The collection - much of it priceless - includes the most extensive material in the country (and in some departments, in the world) relating to the destroyed European communities. Cataloguing is a continuing responsibility and although vast work remains, it is apparent that progress is being made and that the materials are being cared for in an orderly manner.

Particularly noteworthy are the "letters" section including correspondence of outstanding Yiddish writers, the records of a number of European communities extending back over a century, and the material on the Jewish Theater. Some non-Jewish writers and political personalities are also represented.

The Theater Archive was made possible by a special grant from the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, and contains rare original manuscripts, musical scores, etc.

9. ACTIVITIES ABROAD

Branches and committees of YIVO function in a number of countries throughout the world. All conduct conferences, exhibitions, research projects and in some cases the publication of books and periodicals. Some are financially dependent on YIVO in New York; all take guidance and direction from it. These committees gather auxiliary materials for studies conducted by YIVO in New York as well as material for the Library and Archives. In 1957, 1,300 books, brochures, mimeographed material, etc. were received from the Society of Friends of YIVO in the State of Israel. The London Committee sent the Dr. Moses Gaster Collection and the Dr. David Mowshowitch Collection.

The Argentine Committee published in 1955 the 6th volume of Argentine YIVO Shriften. a volume of the work of the artist Minkowski and MORRIS ROSENFELD'S LETTERS by E. Lifschutz. In 1959 the Argentine Committee published a Sholem Aleichem Album.

10. DIVISION OF FIELD

Considerable interest was expressed by YIVO in the possibility of dividing the archival field among the agencies now active in gathering archives. YIVO might specialize, under such an arrangement, in the European background, landsmanshaften, fraternal organizations in the United States, and labor history. A conference on this subject would be welcomed.

End of National Foundation for Jewish Culture Collection